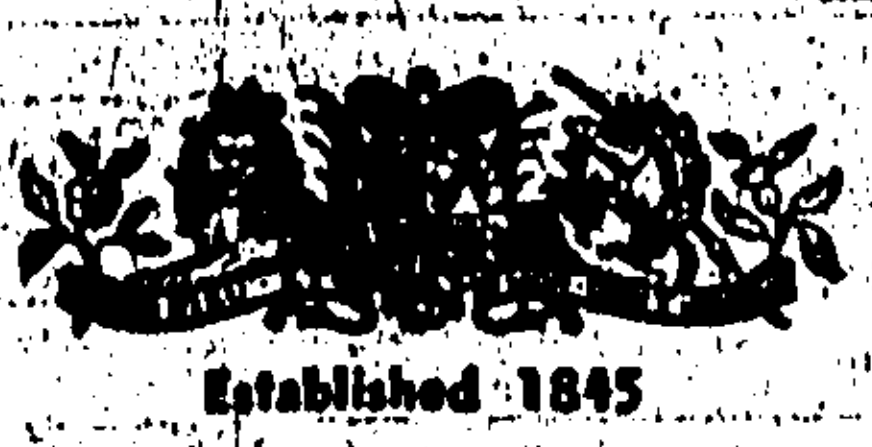


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## COMMENT OF THE DAY

### CYPRUS ISSUE

THE Cyprus issue has been temporarily settled to the satisfaction of the United Nations General Assembly for this year. But the wording of the resolution is rather vague and there is no doubt that Greece will raise the question again as soon as she is able to do so. The accord with which the Assembly voted, especially Greece, is admirable although it might appear that the Greek representative, realising that he could not win a favourable vote, decided to change his mind and agree with the majority, thereby leaving behind an excellent impression of co-operation which might stand him in good stead at the next opportunity. On the other hand it is possible that Greece saw the weakening of the new alliance with Turkey and Yugoslavia and the detrimental effect her attitude was having on the NATO powers. Indeed the Turkish delegate, referring to relations between the three countries, said that the alliance must be kept intact and that no obstacle should be put in the path of the further development of those friendly relations.

GREECE has been charged with concocting an artificial uproar at a time when relations between the three countries and the United Kingdom are beginning to have a favourable effect on the minds of the people. Already there are signs of a subversive force at work in Athens, Salonika and Nicosia stirring up emotions that could easily get out of control. The great emphasis placed on "self-determination" by the Greeks and supported by the Soviet bloc poses the question "Were the Latvians, Bulgarians, Poles, Czechs and East Germans given the opportunity of self-determination?" They were not and it is intriguing that the Soviet bloc showed deep concern for this principle. There is no doubt that in time the island will have self-government but the course must be run slowly and Britain must not allow her hand to be forced by outside influences. Britain has a duty to the large Turkish population of the island and it is therefore unthinkable that Cyprus should be handed to Greece on a vote for that is exactly what the Greeks are after.

# BATTLE FOR RATIFICATION BEGINS

## Adenauer Wins Round 1 MR FRANCE: DEBATE NOT TO BE DELAYED PROSPECTS STILL GOOD

London, Dec. 16.

The first round of the battle for ratification of the Paris agreements began in Bonn and Paris tonight as Russia increased the pressure of its war of nerves on its one last hope of salvation—the French Assembly.

There were these developments in Paris and Bonn tonight:

- The West German Bundestag (lower house) tonight defeated a Social Democratic motion calling for immediate Big Four talks with Russia and Chancellor Konrad Adenauer thus won the first round of his fight for ratification of the Paris agreements;
- The Parliamentary Opposition to the French Premier Pierre Mendes-France appeared tonight to be amassing its forces for an attack on the Government but it appeared that the Opposition would not launch its assault until after the vote on the ratification of the Paris treaties;
- Extreme right-wing deputies will make an effort to postpone the whole debate on the grounds that the Germans are not acting in good faith about the Franco-German Saar agreement but they are not expected to be followed by the majority of the Assembly;
- The Defence Committee of the French National Assembly rejected a report recommending conditional approval of German rearmament but the vote was not considered a defeat for M. Mendes-France, according to observers;
- Despite the new Russian threat to terminate the Franco-Soviet friendship treaty if the Paris agreements are ratified by the French Assembly, M. Mendes-France plans to begin the debate on ratification of the agreements on Monday as arranged.

IN BONN Chancellor Konrad Adenauer tonight won the first round of his battle for ratification of the Paris agreements on West German rearmament and the Saar. The Bundestag, by an overwhelming show of hands, voted to send the ratification bills to the appropriate committees for study before the second and third readings, probably in January. The vote came at the end of two days of full debate on the first reading.

Dr Adenauer's strength in the Lower House of Parliament was indicated in a previous test, on an Opposition Socialist motion aimed at delaying ratification of the treaties, which will rearm 500,000 West Germans.

**SOCIALIST MOVE**  
By a vote of 238 to 153, the Bundestag rejected the Socialist-sponsored motion calling for postponement of ratification of the Paris treaties until a new Big Four conference on German reunification could be held.

**OPPOSITION GROWING**  
IN PARIS the Parliamentary Opposition to French Premier Pierre Mendes-France appeared tonight to be amassing its forces for an attack on the Government.

### Not A Defeat

Paris, Dec. 16.  
The Defence Committee of the French National Assembly tonight rejected a report recommending conditional approval of German rearmament, but the vote was not considered a defeat for Premier Pierre Mendes-France.

M. Mendes-France has insisted that the London and Paris agreements to rearm West Germany and admit her to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation be accepted by the National Assembly without amendment. Therefore, the Committee vote actually supported the Premier in refusing to accept a report which did recommend changes. The report had favoured the Western European Union, entry of Germany into NATO and the Saar agreement, but only with the important proviso that a permanent body be established in Germany to negotiate with the Russians on Allied evacuation and German reunification.

for an attack on the government. But Parliamentary manoeuvring indicated that at least some of the opposition hoped to postpone its assault until after the vote on the ratification of the Paris accords.

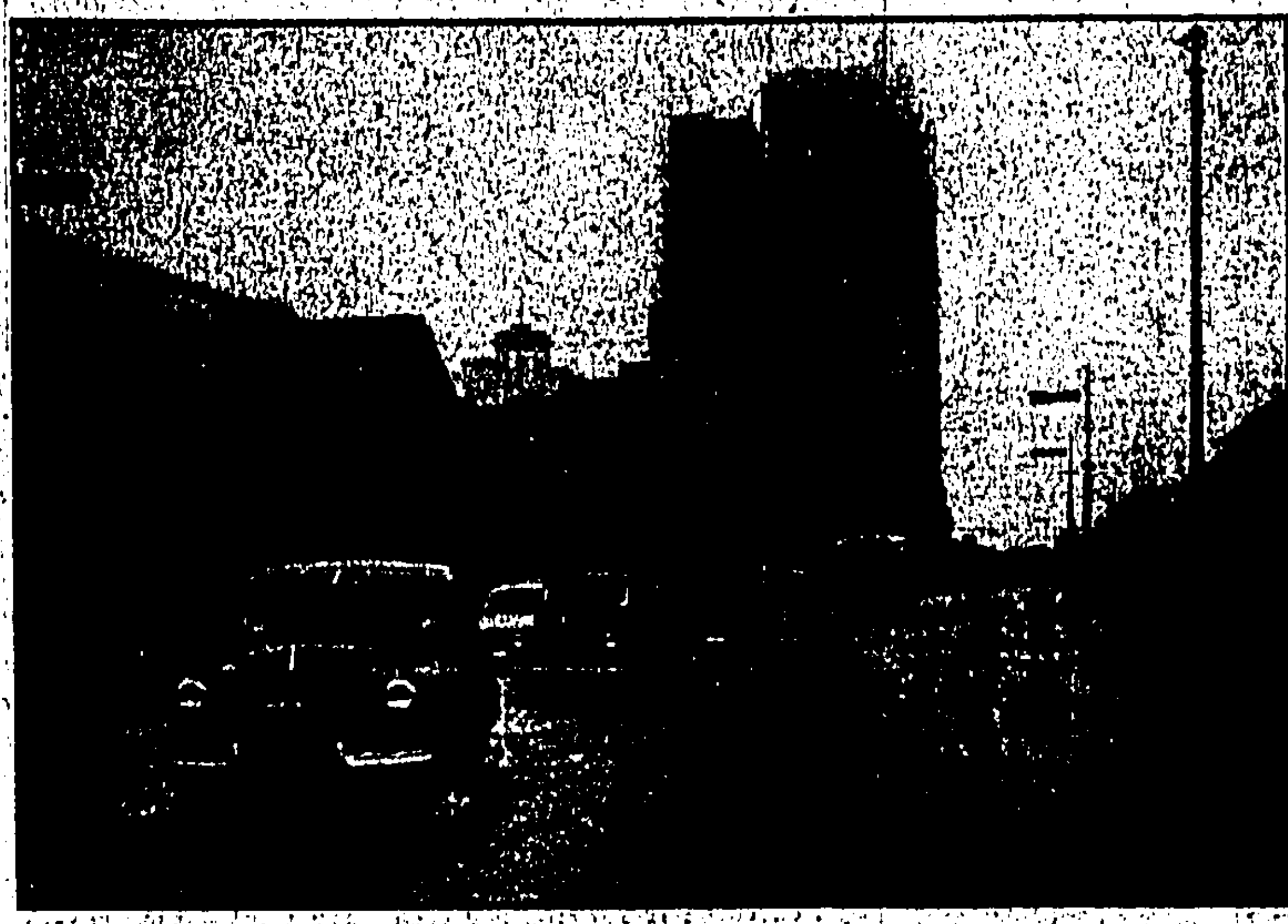
Thus, Edouard, Frederic-Dupont, who was Minister for the Associated States of Indo-China in the last phase of the Laniel government, has proposed the postponement of the discussion of the controversial Indo-China budget.

The National Assembly's Finance Committee has rejected the Indo-China budget, and the Cabinet has authorised M. Mendes-France to ask for a formal vote on confidence in the budget debate.

M. Frederic-Dupont's proposal would have the effect of putting off a showdown on this issue, until after the Paris agreements have been acted upon by the Assembly.

**NO DELAYS**  
The Soviet threat to terminate the Franco-Soviet friendship treaty if the Paris agreements on the rearmament of West Germany are ratified by the French Parliament will leave the Parliamentary programme laid down by the Government unaltered, it was learned tonight. The debate for the ratification of the Paris agreements will start on Monday as arranged and will in principle last three days. If the Government puts a question of confidence, the vote will only be able to be taken on Christmas Day.

### Floods Continue In Southern Malaya



These two Straits Times pictures show the flooding in Singapore and southern Malaya which resulted from the heavy rains of last week. Above is a photograph of a Singapore street under about eight inches of water; and below is a photograph of a Malayan family paddling to the front door of their flooded home. Yesterday, British Forces in Malaya threw their weight into rescue work in what threatened to be the worst floods in Malayan history.

After eight days, the southern Malayan peninsula just north of the Equator was still receiving some of the worst tropical down-pours in years. While 50,000 people who had been either driven from their homes or stranded in them waited for the floods to recede, fresh trouble threatened in the central Malaya state of Pahang, where the Pahang River threatens to burst its banks. Royal Navy helicopters and Royal Air Force transport planes today skimmed low over the jungle dropping food supplies and dry blankets to villagers stranded on high ground along the south-east coast.—Reuters.

### Two Quakes Rock 4 American States

Reno, Nevada, Dec. 16.  
Two earthquakes rocked a 300,000-square-mile area of four Western States today, rousing thousands of people from their sleep and causing minor damage to highways and buildings. No injuries were reported. The two rolling quakes were felt throughout all Nevada, in most of California and in parts of Utah and Oregon. Plaster fell from the ceilings and walls, cracks appeared and a chimney was loosened in Nevada 80-year-old capital at Carson City.

**DROPPED 2 1/2 FEET**  
A 50-foot section of Transcontinental Highway 50 dropped two and a half feet. Large boulders rolled on to the pavement at Carroll Summit and large cracks appeared in the roadway at many places. Traffic was detoured around the damaged areas. The quakes were felt from Los Angeles to the Oregon border and from Salt Lake City to Western Arizona. The tremors had a rolling motion without the sharp jolt which caused heavy damage to buildings and irrigation systems, and injured several people late this summer in Western Nevada.—United Press.

### Labour Party Plans For 1955 Election

London, Dec. 17.  
The British Labour Party has sent out a warning to its 680 local organisations throughout Britain to prepare for a General Election next year. Mr Morgan Phillips, General Secretary of the party, in a special message to the 6,000,000-member movement, said: "There are strong indications" of an election in 1955. He declared that the party "can and must win it." He announced the Labour Executive Committee had decided to organise a nationwide propaganda and organisation campaign in the early months of 1955. A three-fold campaign would seek to popularise various aspects of policy set out in Labour's already published manifesto, "Challenge to Britain," would seek to raise the party's membership and would try to bring its fighting machine to the highest pitch of efficiency.—Reuters.

### M.C.C. DISASTER: 7 WICKETS FALL FOR 88 RUNS

Sydney, Dec. 17.  
England made a disastrous start in the second Test match against Australia today, having lost seven wickets for 88 runs.

The rot started shortly after lunch, when Hutton was out to a good low catch by Davidson off Bill Johnston for 30. Davidson dived to his right and took the ball inches above the ground to dislodge the England skipper.

England, who had earlier reached 50 in 100 minutes, was then 88. There was a further shock for the visitors' two overs later when Gravetye was out to a good catch by Fayell off Bill Johnston for 21 and England was four down for only 80.—Reuters.

Edrich, Tyson and Evans followed in quick succession.

Arthur Morris, who captained Australia in the absence of injured Ian Johnson, won the toss and sent England in to bat on wickets with two "doubtful" patches owing to heavy overnight rain. But commentators said the pitch played well, though an occasional ball lifted awkwardly.

**MAGNIFICENT ATTACK**  
The Australian opening attack was described as magnificent, with Ray Lindwall yielding 21 runs for one wicket in seven overs, and Ron Archer four runs for one wicket in the same number of overs.

**HUTTON'S 12 RUNS**  
The first 20 minutes of play produced 12 runs, all from Hutton's bat, against the attack of Ray Lindwall and Archer. Lindwall bowled to an "umbrella" field—four slips, one cover point, two short legs and a silly mid-on. At lunch Hutton was 19 n.o. and Gravetye 7 n.o. The teams are:  
England—L. Hutton, T. E. Bailey, F. B. H., J. G. Cowdrey, T. W. Gravetye, V. J. Edrich, T. G. Evans, F. Tyson, F. H. Wardle, J. B. Statham, R. Apthorpe.  
Australia—A. Morris, R. Benaud, A. Davidson, I. A. Fayell, N. Harvey, G. Hole, J. Burke, W. Johnston, G. Langley, R. Lindwall and Ron Archer.

### Christmas Issue Tomorrow

The China Mail tomorrow publishes its Christmas issue and for the occasion it has selected from a wide range of features prepared in different parts of the world the very best articles, short-stories and commentaries.

In addition to our Christmas features, however, we shall continue to publish all our regular favourites such as Giles, Jane Roberts' film reviews, Les Armour's horoscopes, pictorial and a local diary of the week in pictures.

**FABULOUS LADY**, Nancy Spaul's story of Gertrude Lawrence, ends this week and there is another article in the series on INTERPOL and their investigations into international crime.

**Leonard Mosley** suggests that you find a lonely person and share your cheer with him this Christmas.

The Rev. P. B. (Tubby) Clayton, founder of Too-H and Chaplain to the Queen, says: **DON'T FORGET THE ORPHANS** IN CHRISTMAS and tell you how to make Christmas mean more to them.

### Russia Plans Rouble Diplomacy In Southeast Asia, Says M.P.

From Our Own Correspondent

British politicians have been told that Russia may be stepping up gold production in a bid to lay foundations of a Rouble diplomacy in Southeast Asia.

The warnings come from Conservative M.P. Frederick James Erroll who recently returned from Russia. Mr Erroll is an authority on both gold and its mining for he is both a qualified engineer and a director of Ashanti Goldfields Corporation in West Africa. When he visited Russia with the British Parliamentary delegation he asked especially to be shown Soviet methods of gold mining.

In closely guarded mines at Sverdlovsk behind the Urals he saw enough to make him report to high-level British authorities as soon as he returned to London. Tonight he said: "Without a doubt the Russians have stepped up gold production to a high degree of priority. They have only begun to do so fairly recently. The gold workings I saw at Sverdlovsk started only in 1951. Already they are bringing about a thousand tons of reef to the surface daily in one mine alone. To do this, Mr Erroll said, economic planners in Moscow diverted brains, manpower and machinery vitally needed in other major industries."

Mr Erroll, who took full advantage of the opportunity to look around during his stay in Russia, has two main reasons to explain the sudden expansion of Russian gold production.

First, he believes, too, that Russian economic chiefs might not hesitate to embark on massive gold-mining operations which would enable a massive increase in the production of gold in the near future.

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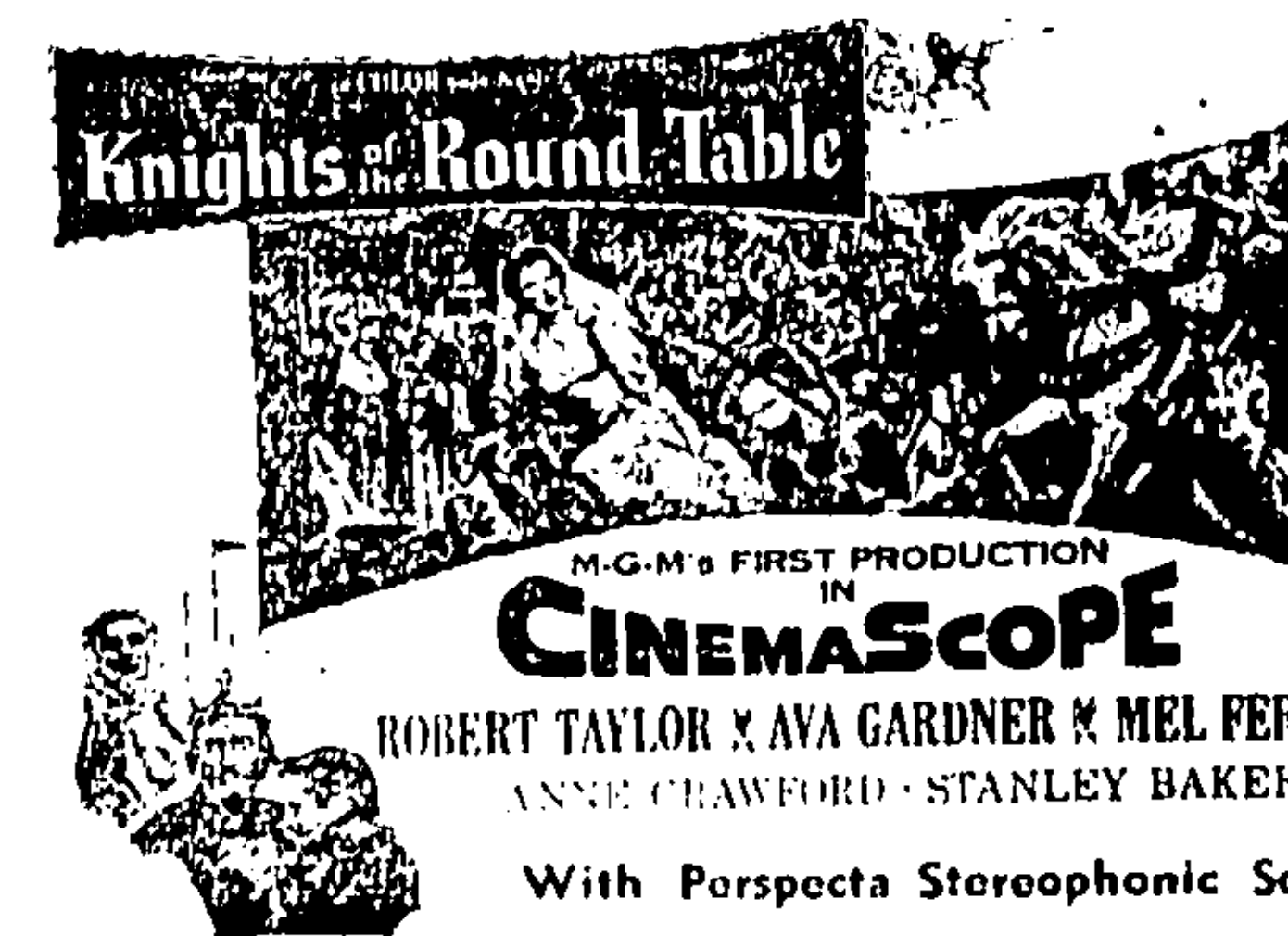


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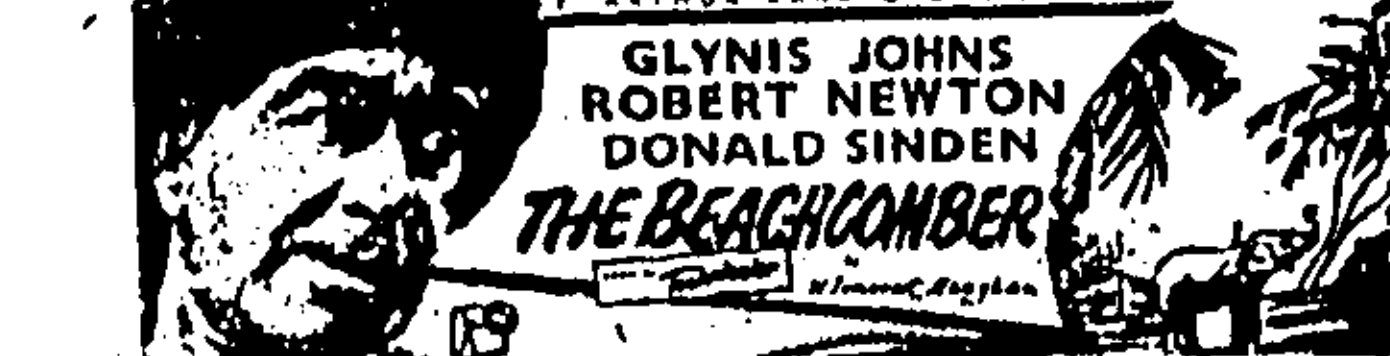
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# U.S. MAY CUT ARMY



A flood scene in Singapore last week.—Straits Times Photo.

# Body For Sale

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 16. There was a buyer here today for the life of Satoshi Horita, the frustrated 22-year-old Japanese who offered in Tokyo on Tuesday to "sell out" for 70,000 yen — \$195 in American money.

Mr. David Segal, owner of Radio Station KUDL here and KOSI in Denver, said he would bail Horita out of debt if Horita for one year would wear T-shirt bearing the inscription:

"In Kansas City it's KUDL—In Denver it's KOSI—America's best."

Mr. Segal said he would furnish a half-dozen T-shirt and would make payment in any form Horita specified.

"All I need is his shirt size," Mr. Segal said.

Horita has not yet been informed of the offer.

Horita had parked himself at the side of a busy Tokyo street with a placard round his neck which read: "This body for sale for 70,000 yen."

He found passers-by either curious and unwilling to buy or willing to buy and too curious to sign a contract.

"I instinctively sensed he was crooked," he said about his first prospective client.

"He said he would not tell me what he needed me for until I signed a contract. I did not like that and refused."

The second prospective buyer told Horita he wanted him as a baker for "work at night."

"But the bad part came after that," Horita said. "He told me I must be at his complete disposal, obey every order and even have a finger cut off as a token of my obedience."

TOO CHEAP

Horita confessed that from now on he might have to be less particular about who bought him.

He said he had changed his placard which originally read: "This life for sale." Police thought this was too "cheap."

He took their advice and advertised his body instead.

United Press & China Mail Special.

Over 70 per cent of the cadres did not know the Party's agricultural task according to the "general line" during the "transition period," the periodical said.

Some cadres regarded Urumchi (capital of Sinkiang Province) as the name of a President of some country, while others said the Central American Republic, Guatemala was the name of a person.

Over 50 persons gave a wrong answer to the question "What are the three countries in Indo-China?" (Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos).

Literary units were blamed for taking no leadership in the cadres' studies.—China Mail Special.

Red Officials

Fail Tests

London, Dec. 17.

Communist literary cadres (officials) were found to be extremely ignorant through a simple intelligence test conducted by the East China Cultural Bureau, says the Communist Chinese Literary Gazette, a fortnightly from Peking.

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# Threat Of Global Atomic War Diminished

Washington, Dec. 16. A Defence Department source said today that the Administration is reviving its once-scrapped plan to cut military manpower to about 2,800,000 by mid-1957.

Such a drastic slash would be in line with the Administration's position that the threat of global atomic war has diminished, permitting a smaller military force for the long pull of the cold war.

Also in the background are the facts that the Administration is faced with a \$3,000,000,000 budget deficit in the coming fiscal year and the military represents one of the biggest areas for economising.

The Defence Secretary, Mr. Charles E. Wilson, gave the tip-off that the Administration had turned once again to plans for cutting military manpower strength when he said last night that the active forces would be reduced to "something less" than the 3,047,000-man figure to be reached by next June 30.

LEVELLING OFF

The 3,047,000-man figure previously had been set as the levelling off point after a battle by the Services against a long-range plan to cut military strength to 2,815,000 by mid-1957.

The 3,047,000 figure represents a 210,268 reduction from current strength and 500,000 from what it was when President Eisenhower took office.

This decision to revive the old 2,815,000-man objective was reached only in recent days. It was reached at a time when defence officials were completing a military budget for the coming fiscal year on the assumption that manpower strength would be continued at the 3,047,000 level.

Revival of the plan portends further re-deployment of American troops in the Far

East, where the United States has one Marine and three Army divisions.

During the past year, two Army divisions have been withdrawn from the Far East, greatly relieving the Army's manpower burden.

When the old plan of reducing to 2,816,000 men was scrapped last Summer, Dr. John A. Hannah, then Assistant Defence Secretary for Manpower, said it was because a new appraisal showed "we are going to require more men than contemplated" in the Far East.

He said that defence planners "originally figured we would be able to pull a good share out of the Far East."

FEELS SAFE

Defence sources said today, however, that abandonment of the old plan was based on temporary conditions and that the Administration now feels safe in reviving it.

The sources did not elaborate on what the temporary conditions were, but at the time the Indo-China war was reaching a crisis and the Administration was considering the possibility of intervening.—United Press.

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# TUNISIAN QUESTION

## In Honour Of The "Water Imp"

### BULLS LOSE INTEREST IN FIGHTING

Luanga, Angola, West Africa, Dec. 17. Sportmen here are now facing their greatest problem—how to keep bulls from fighting in the local climate. Already in the town of Sa Da Bandeira the rickety bull-ring stands empty and deserted because the local bulls just do not care for fighting.

Down in Lobito Bay, the fans have had extra-special fierce bulls imported from Portugal but after one or two brave shows the local bovine lassitude got them.

One suggestion is that instead of recruiting bulls either locally or overseas, a few wild buffalo should be captured. They always seem to be in a bad temper. Others feel that rhino would be more suitable and exciting.—China Mail Special.

### CHURCHILL PRESSED FOR ATOMIC STATEMENT

London, Dec. 16. Sir Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister, resisted requests in the House of Commons today for an exact statement about the number of atomic and nuclear explosions that would make the atmosphere lethal over substantial areas of the world.

He said he was frequently in touch with his advisers who did not think the moment had been reached for him to make a definite final appreciation to the Commons on the subject.

Mr Philip Noel Baker, a former Labour Minister, suggested that the Prime Minister should ask his advisers to furnish him with the many statements made by Japanese and American scientists.

They had had special opportunities for studying the question and the "grave danger inherent in atomic explosions."

He asked whether the Prime Minister would consider suspending further tests.

Sir Winston Churchill replied: "I was not aware of any test that were in immediate prospect under the control of this country."—Reuter.

## U.N. Confident Countries Can Solve Issue

### UNANIMOUS VOTE

United Nations, Dec. 16. The United Nations Main Political Committee voted unanimously today not to consider further the Tunisian question with the confidence that the Franco-Tunisian negotiations now underway would satisfactorily solve the issue.

The vote was 54-0 in favour of a moderate resolution put forward by 14 Asian-African nations after last-minute compromises with Latin American and other delegates to remove any possible suggestion of doubt that might hamper the French-Tunisian talks.

Australia, South Africa and Britain abstained from voting on the grounds that the U.N. was not competent to intervene in the matter at all. France boycotted the debate and Guatemala and Liberia were also absent when the vote was taken.

The display of unanimity on the resolution was hailed by most members as a tribute to the French Premier, M. Pierre Mendes-France, and there were repeated declarations of praise for his efforts and of confidence in his intentions to solve the problem in the North African problem, which has preoccupied the U.N. for the past four years.

**CONFIDENCE**  
The original resolution was assumed of overwhelming support by a final change, by which the General Assembly "expresses confidence that the said negotiations will bring about a satisfactory resolution."

The United States, which originally had urged that no resolution at all be adopted as inadvisable at this time, voted for the amended resolution.

The U.S. representative, Mr. James Wadsworth, said: "I made

it clear that the United States believed that no resolution would be desirable at this time. But in view of the auspicious atmosphere in which the discussion was conducted, I am glad that we were able to vote in favour of this revised resolution. In effect, by expressing confidence, we are saying to both parties: we trust you to carry on these negotiations to a successful conclusion."

"As such, I trust a resolution of this type will help to maintain the favourable atmosphere which has so much promise for both sides."

The resolution must now be adopted by the General Assembly, but the 54-0 vote made passage there by a two-thirds majority a foregone conclusion. The British delegate, Sir Pierson Dixon, said he would have preferred no resolution because of "M. Mendes-France's efforts and the evidence that we might expect the negotiations to lead shortly to fruitful results."

"I think those efforts could well have been left to nature," he added.

**COULD NOT ACCEPT**  
He said Britain could not accept the resolution as purely procedural and this thus raised the question of U.N. competence.

"But everything I have said," he concluded, "and all that was said in debate here and on Morocco, shows that we have the utmost confidence in the intentions and ability of the French Government to solve these problems."—United Press.

### Japan Will Look Both Ways

London, Dec. 17. The New Statesman and Nation forecast today that Mr Ichiro Hata, the new Japanese Prime Minister, would "revert to Japan's traditional policy of looking both ways."

This leftwing weekend review said of the successor to Mr Yoshida: "An enemy of Communism, he yet wants increased trade with Russia and China."

It recalled a recent statement by Mr Mamoru Shigemitsu, the new Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier that Japan was "willing to restore normal relations with the Soviet Union and Communist China, on mutually acceptable terms," but that priority would go to "our basic collaboration within the free nations."

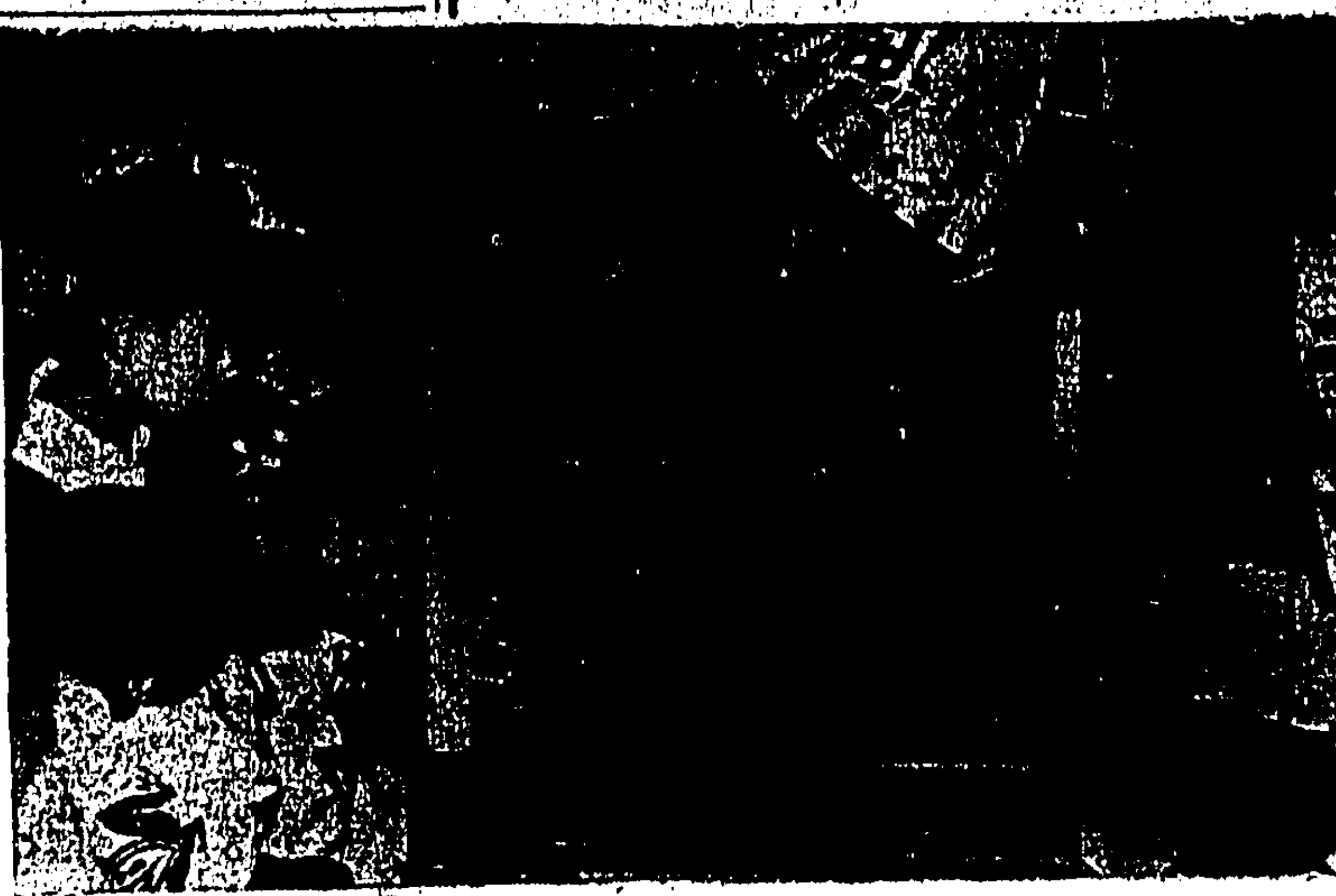
The New Statesman and Nation commented: "In other words, the new Japanese Cabinet, reflecting public opinion, finds it common sense as well as good business to respond favourably to the Soviet advances of the past few months."

### BIG BUSINESS

The New Statesman and Nation added: "But can any Japanese Government achieve a more normal economy as long as her industrial life is dictated from Washington and prejudiced by militarisation?"

"No wonder Mr Shigemitsu has already suggested a review of the annual security aid with the United States on a really reciprocal basis."

"Even though the new Government, led by Mr Hata, reflects the will of big business rather than that of the people, economic pressure in Japan will probably make for the early removal of restrictions on trade with China and the Soviet Union."—China Mail Special.



During the "Water Imp" ceremony which is held each year at the Sogeri Temple in Matuba-Cho, Japan, two young children pit their strength against each other—while balancing a tray of water on their heads. The ceremony is held to honour the "Water Imp" who, according to legend, helped the village to avert a flood 130 years ago.—Express Photo.

## World Peace STRAIGHTEN THE LINE IN ASIA, SAYS SPENDER

### If Human Nature Changes

New York, Dec. 16. Evangelist Billy Graham said today that world peace could be attained only if human nature were changed radically.

"The problem of the world is not the hydrogen bomb or even Communism," said Mr Graham. "The problem is depraved human nature."

"I believe it is more patriotic to receive Christ and put his



BILLY GRAHAM

teachings into practice in our daily life than to shoulder a gun in the armed forces," Mr Graham told the Salvation Army Association of New York after receiving its seventh annual citation. "Many of you want to save America but you're not willing to pay the personal price."

Mr Graham was honoured for "his boundless spirit, unflinching faith and absolute dedication to Christ (which) has led untold thousands into a new and deeper understanding of God."

Mr Graham said: "There is no difference in the nature of a savage walking a jungle trail with a spear in his hand and an educated, cultured American flying a bomber overhead. Until human nature is radically changed, there is no real basis for world peace and the solution of our problems."—United Press.

### DARTS ALLOWED IN BARS

Krugersdorp, Transvaal, Dec. 17. Dart players have won a year-long battle when the Liquor Licensing Board decided to rescind a decision taken last year to ban darts in bars.

The ban raised protests from players in the town and was reported widely in South Africa and overseas.—China Mail Special.

Washington, Dec. 16. Sir Percy Spender, Australian Ambassador, today called on the United States and her Allies in the Southeast Asia defence treaty to "straighten the line" in Asia.

Sir Percy, speaking at a monthly luncheon of the American Ordnance Association in the National Press Club, said: "It is a matter of tremendous urgency for the Western powers and their Asian Allies to get the line straight in Asia in terms of policy and objectives."

"Unless we get that line straight it is not going to be easy to hold any line in Asia."

Sir Percy told the members of the Association, which includes high ranking officers of the United States armed services, industry and Government interested in scientific development of modern military equipment that the policy of the Soviet Union had not changed "one hair's breadth" in recent months.

He said the different tone the Soviet Union was using in world affairs simply meant that the Communist leaders were trying a different means to achieve their ends. This was a Hitler type technique which must not lull the non-Communist world into a false sense of security.

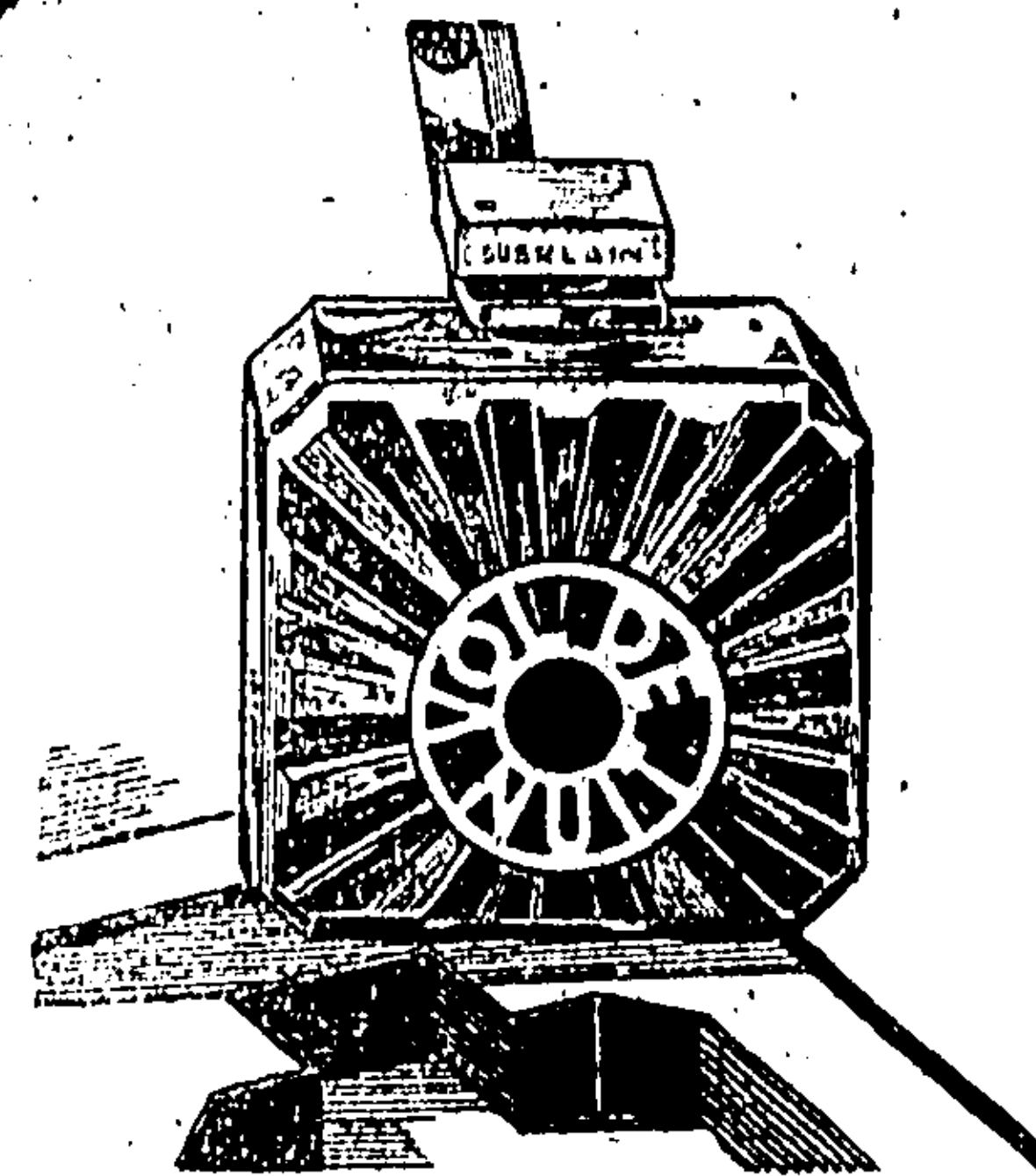
### Engagement Ring For Dead Girl

Singapore, Dec. 16. A sad young man slipped an engagement ring on the finger of a pretty girl—who lay dead in the General Hospital here last weekend.

Tan Eng-soon (son of Singapore millionaire Tan Lark-see, rubber magnate and President of Nanyang University Council), met and fell in love with a 17-year-old girl student, Ang Siew-lay. They planned their engagement to be a surprise to their families, and were making arrangements to announce it when the girl complained of a choking feeling in her throat. She lay in a hospital for four days, with Eng-soon keeping a day and night vigil by her bed. Then she died.

Eng-soon slipped a diamond ring on her finger. The engagement ring she never wore in life went with her to the grave.—France-Press.

# Guerlain



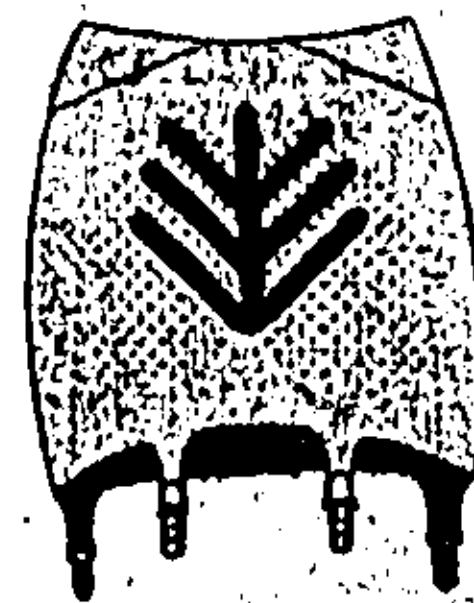
Vol de Nuit

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## The New Playtex

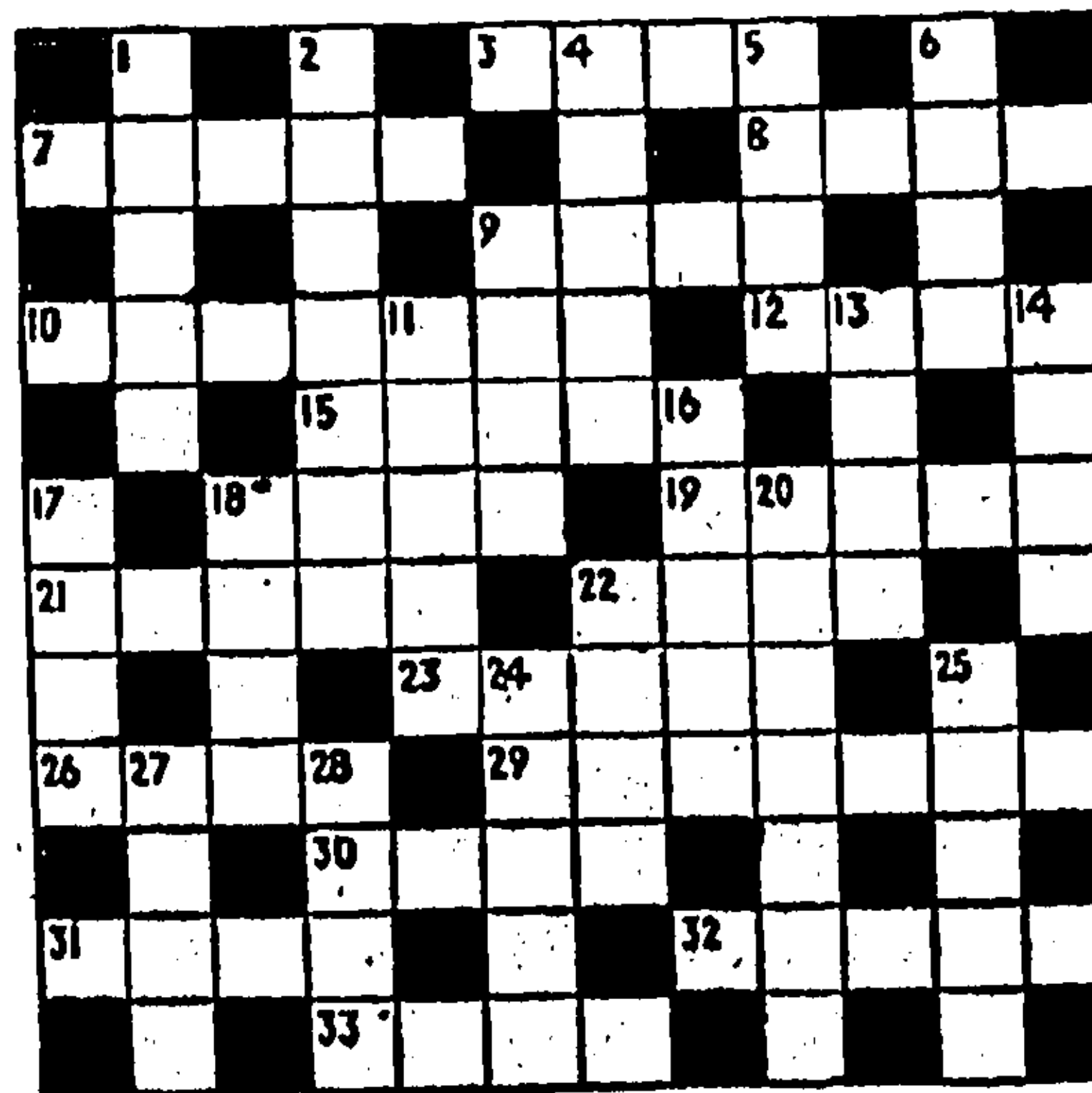
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### A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3 Blackleg (4).
- 7 Refuge (8).
- 8 Way out (4).
- 9 Ireland (4).
- 10 Caution (7).
- 12 Hue (4).
- 15 Marsh plants (5).
- 18 Cooker (4).
- 19 Porfent (8).
- 21 Drying cloth (5).
- 22 Operatic song (4).
- 23 Siald (8).
- 26 Attitude (4).
- 29 Renowned (7).
- 30 Tidy (4).
- 31 Year (4).
- 32 Purloined (8).
- 33 Cak off (4).

DOWN

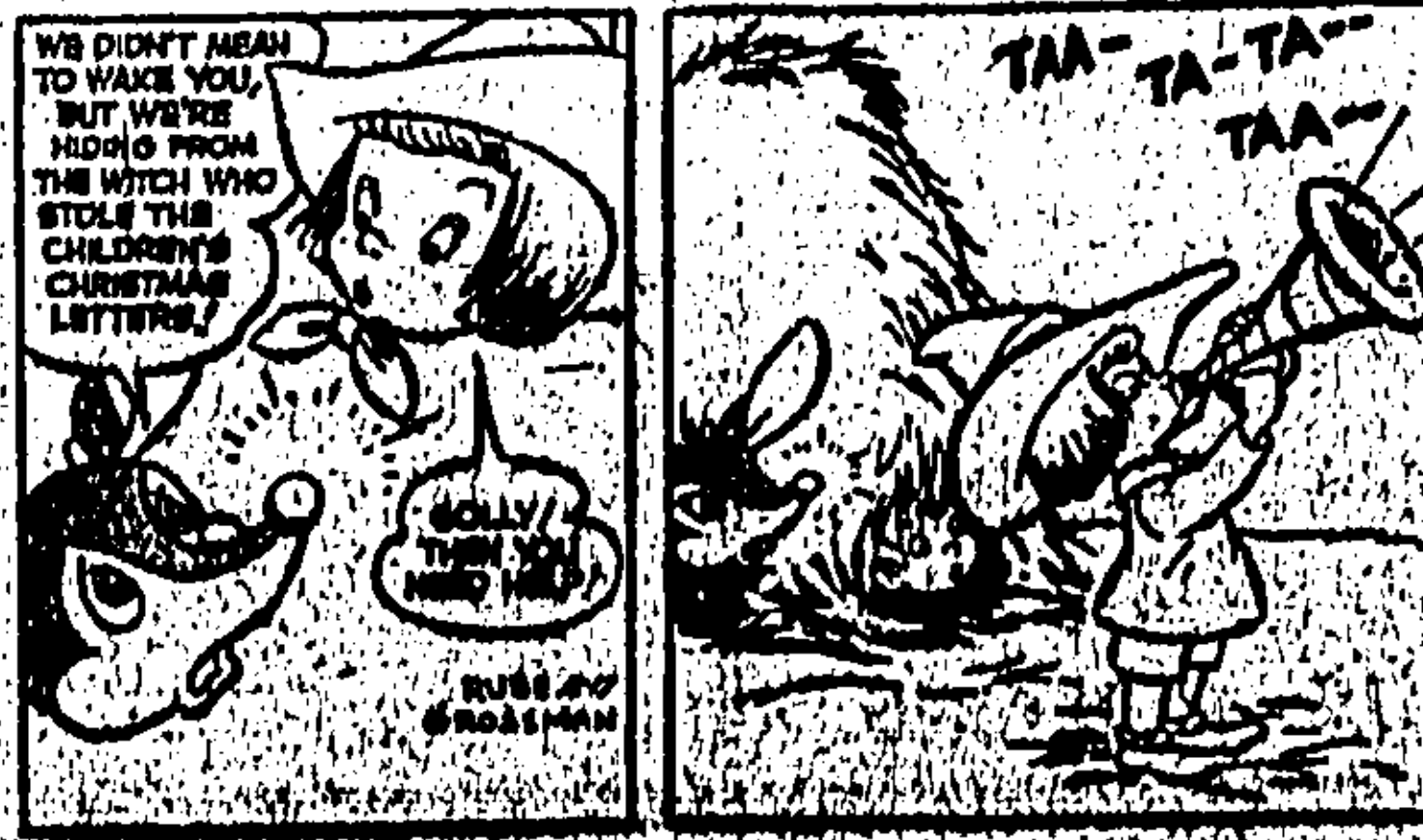
- 1 Antic (5).
- 2 Merit (7).
- 4 Healed (5).
- 5 Inclination (4).
- 6 Symbol (4).
- 9 Uniform (7).
- 11 Dances (5).
- 13 Notion (4).
- 14 Cultivate (4).
- 16 Enchantress (5).
- 17 Cesse (4).
- 18 Possessor (4).
- 20 Guide (7).
- 23 Encourages (4).
- 24 Speak (8).
- 25 Distributed (8).
- 27 Porfent (4).
- 28 Objects (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Patent, 7. Reef, 9. Prior, 10. Aware, 11. Colt, 13. Rectitude, 15. Left, 16. Spin, 19. Meditation, 22. Sham, 24. Agent, 25. Noise, 26. Glen, 27. Replete, 29. Wren, 30. Error, 31. Traitor, 32. Brackets, 33. Feet, 34. Erode, 35. Than, 36. Ranks, 37. Tenement, 38. Image, 39. Winter, 40. Annual, 41. Joke, 42. Hale.

### Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer



By Robert L. May





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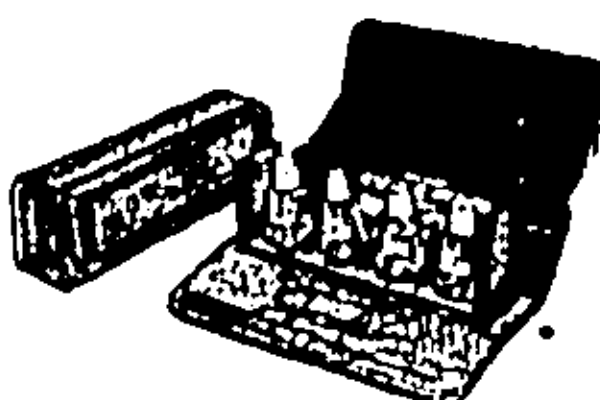
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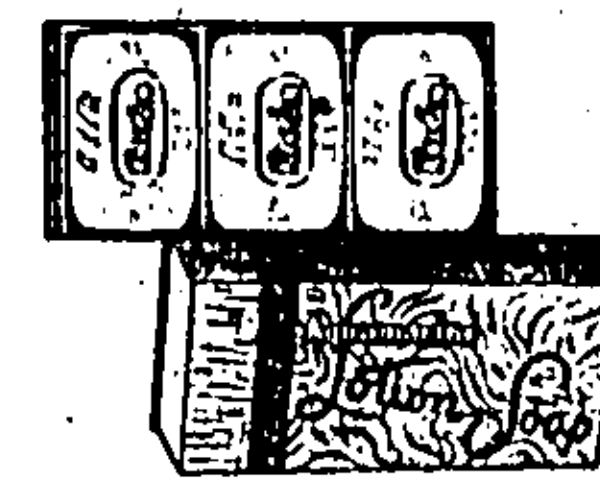
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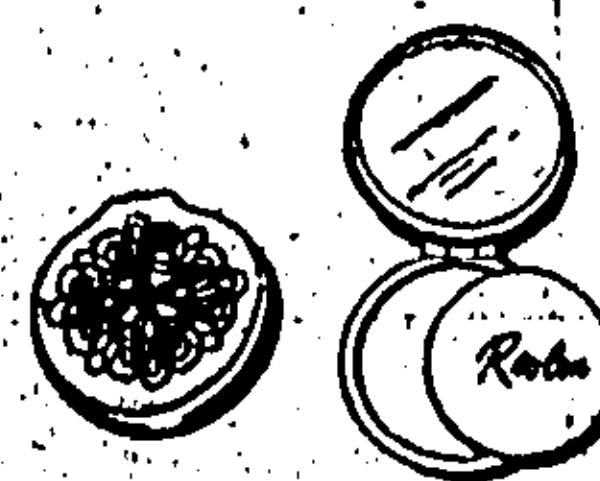
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Aquamarine Lotion Soap



Aquamarine Talc



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## GILES'S COMMENT ON THE NEWS



"You one of 'em, bud?"

The day of the Battleship is over...  
and the Army of old is disappearing

# THE NEW THE RAF MUST BE THE SENIOR SERVICE

By  
**Lord Balfour of Inchrye**  
Under-Secretary of State for Air, 1938-44

**W**ELCOME is the news that Mr Harold Macmillan, the new Minister of Defence, is planning for the H-bomb Age.

Nothing less than heavier doses of the Macmillan drive will force that complete realignment of the roles and values of the three Services which is absolutely essential.

The role of first importance in defence has shifted to the RAF. Let there be no possible doubt about that.

The RAF has become the new Senior Service. Understandably this involves an unpleasant digestive process for such set minds as remain in the other Services.

They don't like it, particularly the Royal Navy, with the finest history and greatest achievements of any world sea force.

Macmillan, in the Commons recently, paid a tribute to what he called "the way in which the Navy is adapting itself to these conditions."

But the admirals are resisting.

In the corridors of Whitehall there are whispers that they are making another attempt to obtain control of Coastal Command of the Royal Air Force.

### If admitted...

THAT claim must be opposed. If it were ever to be admitted it would deprive us of the vital need for unified air power and give no improvement to the diminished role in modern warfare that the Royal Navy must accept.

The role of the Navy must continue vital and extensive; but not so extensive as of old, unpalatable as this fact may be.

Protection of convoys, maintenance of sea communications, offensive action against enemy sea effort, especially undersea effort. These are the main tasks. It is for these we must vote men, ships and equipment. But this must not include the now obsolete capital ship.

For immunity of the capital ship from air attack. Claimed the Navy: The battleship is unsinkable and any how quite capable of shooting down air attackers.

Before the end of the war the Admiralty would not let a battleship sail from harbour without a covering cloud of Spitfires for its protection from time of sailing until safe again in harbour.

The day of the giant battleship is gone. Submarines, except ships, motor torpedo boats, fast sea surface gunboats and gunfires are the vessels of the Navy of tomorrow.

### Despondency

NEXT, they say: "Give us great carriers." We still run them. Upkeep, around £6,000,000 a year each.

By all means carriers. But let them be small and swift, economical in cost and upkeep, companions in convoys. Not these great giants vulnerable to attack unless protected by a formidable task force of surface vessels and aircraft.

These floating garages carry aircraft which could be operated equally well either from small carriers or from shore bases.

In the last stronghold of the big carrier school there is gloom and despondency.

Look at a map and seek likely enemy bases that cannot be reached by long or even medium-range shore-based aircraft.

You will find none within the circle of likely attack. The long-range bomber of today can drop its weapon of offence, atomic or otherwise, on any enemy centre from some base within Commonwealth or NATO control.

In the "thirder" the Navy claimed that all that flew over the sea should be theirs.

### Rejected

IN the war, around 1941, this claim was again put forward. Again it was examined by the War Cabinet and rejected.

For the third time the issue is now being canvassed. In Lord Mountbatten there is to be a new powerful voice, and able First Sea Lord, who will fight for his Service.

But the air is indivisible in its offensive. Bomber effort from land, whether over land or sea, must be one effort, planned, executed, co-ordinated, and controlled. The Navy must accept that.

as to who should supply and operate them.

The Army wants them—and in big numbers—for reconnaissance, Army co-operation and short haul transport. And is determined, somehow, to get them.

If the Air Ministry will not meet the Army's wants, the blame for starting a separatist movement within Whitehall. Army air control will not rest in the War Office.

Opportunity and power must breed not selfishness but generosity.

### Cleared Away

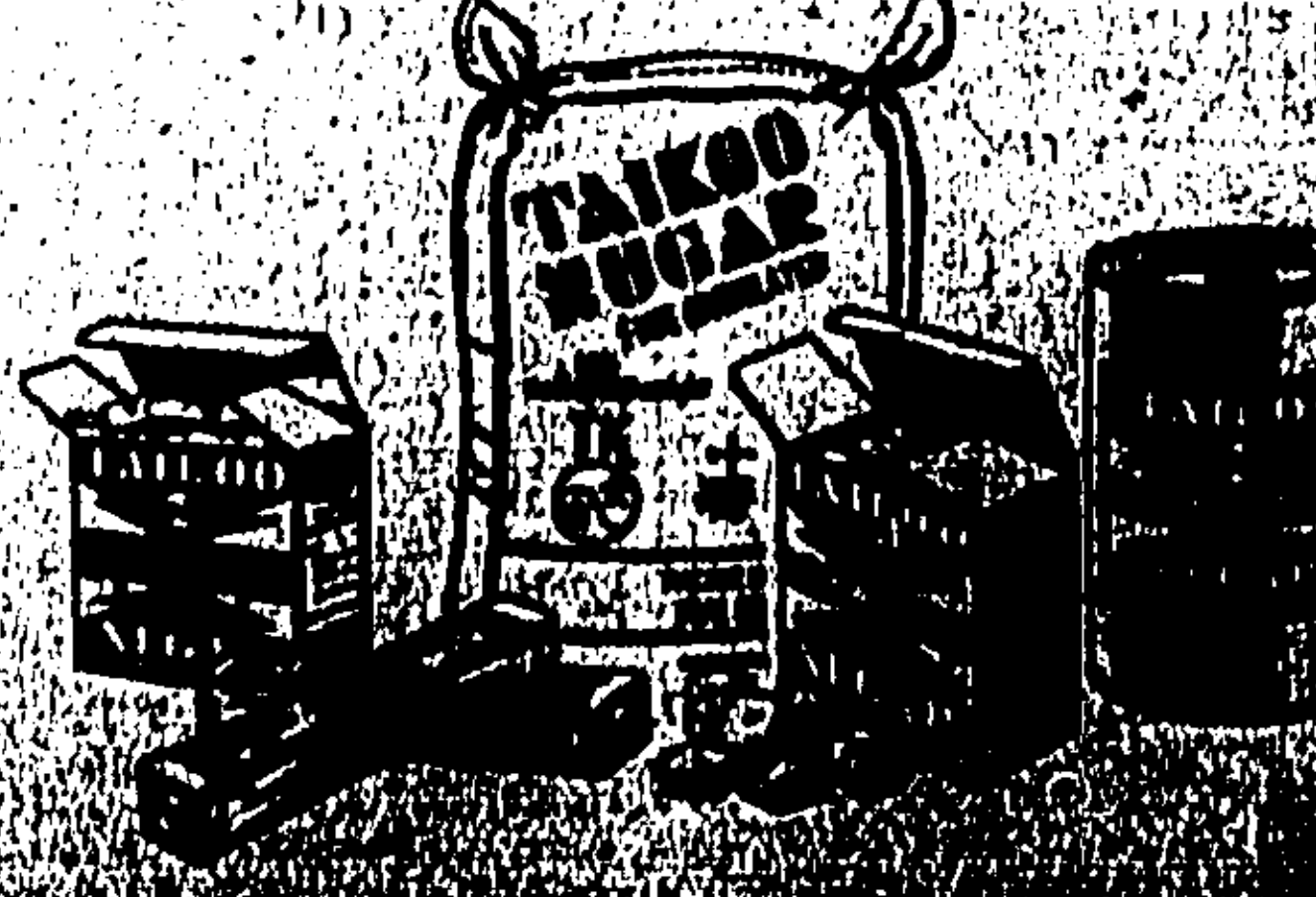
SINCE its birth, 36 years ago, the Royal Air Force has been a centre for inter-Service jealousy and intrigue. Now its role as first defender has cleared away all question as to status and importance.

LET THE E-S-E-SERVICE JEALOUSIES BE JETTISONED ONCE AND FOR ALL TO DO THIS NEEDS CO-OPERATION OF THREE AND NOT TWO SERVICES.

The responsibility for Whitehall peace lies jointly with the Air Ministry, Admiralty, and War Office.

The RAF has never failed us yet in peace or war. I believe passionately that it will rise to its new responsibilities.

# TAIKOO SUGAR HALF CUBES GRANULATED ICING CASTER



## "SELLING" BRITAIN TO HK

From  
**Stewart Gray**

Editor of the China Mail  
now on leave in England

LONDON. Sir Arthur Moore, who, as newly appointed Chairman of the British Travel and Holidays Association, also succeeds to the title of Britain's No. 1 Salesman, intends to "sell" Britain to Hongkong and the rest of the British Colonies.

At his St. James's Street headquarters, Sir Arthur indicated that it was the Hongkong resident plan to spend a holiday overseas that the British Travel Association specially desired to offer its services.

"The BTA is unknown in Hongkong," he said, "and few of the Colony's permanent residents have any knowledge or appreciation of the delights and attractions of Britain as a holiday centre. It is our intention in the future to let Hongkong know."

England is unsurpassable among the countries of the world for a visit—long or short.

Sir Arthur, who has assumed his new responsibilities with characteristic enthusiasm and vigour, is convinced that more and more Hongkong people in a position to take holidays abroad would find England the ideal place for their vacation.

And the British Travel Association, he says, is in the position to ensure that the visitor obtains the maximum of enjoyment and satisfaction from such a holiday.

### YOU'LL HEAR

Hitherto the BTA has been unable to devote attention to "selling" Britain to the Colonies, the reason being that the Association has had to concentrate on trying to earn gold dollars for the National Treasury. But the Colonies are next on the list for development of the Association's activities, and Hongkong can expect to hear much more about this organization—and through it, Britain—next year.

Illustrating the wider ramifications of the BTA, Sir Arthur Moore early next year will be visiting Canada and the United States, inspecting the Association's branches in North America. His official duties will also take him to Europe, where the BTA is greatly expanding its activities.

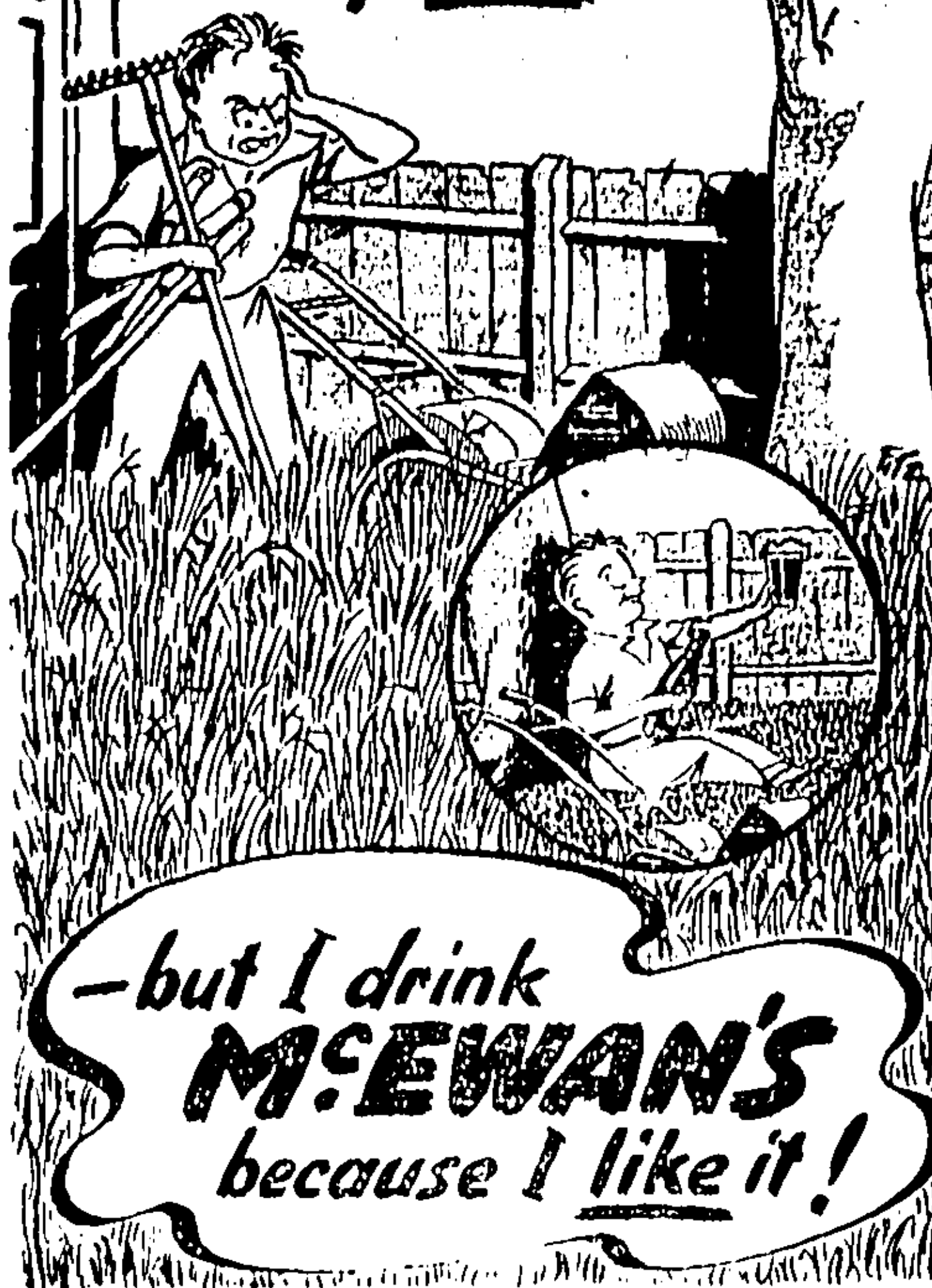
Although the BTA is Sir Arthur's prime interest today, Hongkong in general and its footballers in particular will be interested to know that since his retirement to England, he has become Vice-President of the Athenian football league and holds a similar office with the Hendon football club, from which it will be seen that Sir Arthur has lost none of his zest for public service since his retirement.



# Whiteways



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## England's Soccer Selectors Still Have To Solve A Problem Up Front

Says ARCHIE QUICK

Way back in 1935 England played Germany at football and a young 19-year-old right winger named Stanley Matthews made his mark in International Soccer. Nineteen years later the same player—now his age is doubled—has again proved the hammer of the Teutons.

A little thinner-haired but just as slim, just as fit, just as tantalising this greatest of all modern footballers stole the scene at the much-boasted Wembley game and mostly through his audacious skill England beat the World Cup holders 3-1.

True to tell, if it had not been for him, the game would have been a gigantic flop. The German eleven and the English attack were not up to standard. In fact, the only good that came out of the game was that at long last England has found a satisfactory defence.

The return into goal of Bert Williams after years of exile in the wilderness steadied the whole side. Backs and half-backs obviously had greater faith in him than the men who have superseded him, Merrick and Wood, and the "Blonde Cut" responded with a great display of goalkeeping.

But England's Selectors still have a problem up in front. Tom Finney and Roy Bentley were never in the game, Allen was not a success in a role different to the one he has with his club, and Shackleton, clever at times, was woefully poor in finishing. He at least should have had a "hat trick".

Matthews' centres were coming over in a stream, his trickery was holes in the German defence, but the other forwards did not take advantage of them. It now becomes very clear that England simply cannot afford to play two wingers so similar in type as Matthews and Finney. At least one young, speedy attacker must be introduced into the forward line and it does not matter much whether it is Hooper, Haynes or Blunstone. It looks too as though Allen has had his day as leader.

Many of the players who were in 1935 side against Germany watched the timeless, infatigable Matthews put on yet another stupendous show against the blackcloth of the Wembley arena and one of them, Jack Crayston, now assistant manager of the Arsenal, said to me afterwards: "It is really wonderful how he does it. Physical fitness, ball control and the psychological superiority he wields over all Continental players is, of course, the answer."

Time and again Stanley drew three defenders on to him and left the resultant gaps in the German defence, but the other forwards never seized the chances. If they had, England would have deservedly won by about seven goals.

England, with slight alteration should beat Scotland at Wembley in April and so retain the Championship, but they have not yet found the eleven to take on tour in May to France, Spain and Portugal. A little alteration is necessary, not much.

Selector, Germany's centre forward, was not born when Matthews played that 1935 match and England's centre-forward, Allen, was four years old when he first saw Stanley play.

### THEY WATCHED

Two men sat in the stand at Wembley's great stadium watching England beat Germany 3-1 and their minds must have raced back to a day nineteen years ago at Tottenham when they stood shoulder to shoulder as England's full backs against the Germans. They were England's pair of backs in many such

encounters for the two men were Eddie Hapgood and George Male, former Arsenal defenders. Eddie watched Roger Byrne approvingly, and said afterwards that he thought the Manchester United back had played well. But really, England has never had a completely satisfactory left-back since Hapgood retired.

This Bristol-born man was captain of England's captain of the Arsenal too, and was one of the late Mr Herbert Chapman's many star captures. He was with Kettering Town, and was destined to play thirteen times against Scotland, Wales and Ireland between the years 1934 and 1939 as well as gain 17 "caps" against Continental countries.

He took to the managerial side of the game when his active career was finished and was in charge of Blackburn Rovers and then Watford before moving to Bath City where he is today. His son is also a League player with Burnley.

After the Wembley game Eddie told me that the toughest thing he ever had to do on the football field was to give the Nazi salute at the Berlin Sports Field prior to the game between the two countries there in 1938. "The players were near to revolt as a result of that order," he said, "and you can take it from me the match was nearly not played because of it."

Continued Mr Hapgood: "Just to think, Stanley Matthews played in that match and was one of the best players I ever saw. He is a marvel. He did not have a good game against the Germans at Tottenham in 1935 but he was a star in Berlin and I think that day was the start of the legend which has clung to him ever since on the Continent. These days when players are just scared of him before a ball is kicked and three of them always get orders to mark him. It doesn't make any difference!"

Hapgood said there was something very sad about retirement. "An international player gets a lump in his throat when he realises that never again will he go on one of those overseas trips." He added that he thought the present Arsenal side the poorest that has represented the club for twenty years.

The following have been chosen to represent the club in league fixtures over the week-end:

First Eleven: K.C.C. (away) commencing at 1.30 p.m.—Lough, Bennett, Kettlewell, Ledlie, Lee, Green, Taylor, West, Power, Henderson, Murray, Lovatt, 12th Man: G. E. Spink, 13th Man: G. E. Spink, 14th Man: G. E. Spink, 15th Man: G. E. Spink, 16th Man: G. E. Spink, 17th Man: G. E. Spink, 18th Man: G. E. Spink, 19th Man: G. E. Spink, 20th Man: G. E. Spink, 21st Man: G. E. Spink, 22nd Man: G. E. Spink, 23rd Man: G. E. Spink, 24th Man: G. E. Spink, 25th Man: G. E. Spink, 26th Man: G. E. Spink, 27th Man: G. E. Spink, 28th Man: G. E. Spink, 29th Man: G. E. Spink, 30th Man: G. E. Spink, 31st Man: G. E. Spink, 32nd Man: G. E. Spink, 33rd Man: G. E. Spink, 34th Man: G. E. Spink, 35th Man: G. E. Spink, 36th Man: G. E. Spink, 37th Man: G. E. Spink, 38th Man: G. E. Spink, 39th Man: G. E. Spink, 40th Man: G. E. Spink, 41st Man: G. E. Spink, 42nd Man: G. E. Spink, 43rd Man: G. E. Spink, 44th Man: G. E. Spink, 45th Man: G. E. Spink, 46th Man: G. E. Spink, 47th Man: G. E. Spink, 48th Man: G. E. 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## Triangular Boxing Tournney Tomorrow

The 1st Bn. King's Regiment, the REME Colony Corps Team and the China Gym are holding a triangular boxing tournament tomorrow at the Queen Elizabeth II Youth Centre (MacPherson Stadium), Kowloon, commencing at 8.30 p.m.

One of the best fights on the card should be the meeting between KO specialist Kingsman Kelly and Asian Games boxer Henry Wong.

The card will feature also, the "decider" between Sgt. Weaver of REME and LAC Monahan of RAF, who have each won one fight at previous meetings.

The card is:

Bantam: Kingsman Kearns v. Eddie Ho.  
Feather: Cpl. Reany v. Fong Ki-kong.  
Bantam: Kingsman Doherty v. Chang Chi-wai.  
Welter: L/Cpl. Rollinson v. Gilbert Hui.  
Light: Kingsman Kelly v. Henry Wong.  
Bantam: Ctn. Smythe v. C/Sgt. Homer.  
Light: Ctn. Bernstein v. Kingsman McElhinney.

Light: Sgt. Weaver v. LAC Monahan.  
Feather: Ctn. Walker v. Kingsman Chhill.  
Light: Middle: Ctn. Mullen v. Cpl. Delaney.  
Middle: Ctn. Travers v. Cpl. Shannon.

Feather: Chan Sun-sum v. Ctn. Williams.  
Bantam: Speedy Morales v. Ctn. Hay.  
Light: Fong Yau-chun v. Cpl. McGill.  
Light: Middle: Shi Kan-long v. Cpl. Turner.

On January 22 the REME Colony Boxing Team is arranging a charity boxing contest in aid of the Children's Playgrounds Association.

## Sports Diary

TODAY

Badminton  
Exec. Cttee Meeting at Cosmo Club  
5.30 p.m.  
Junior Mixed Div. 1: King Tong v. St. John's  
Y.W.C.A. v. CYMCA: CCC v. Nereido.

Overseas  
Second Cricket Test at Sydney.

TOMORROW

Boxing  
Div. 1: South China v. Kitchie (CHI) 4 p.m.  
Div. 2: "B" v. "D" 4 p.m.  
Div. 3: "C" v. "E" 4 p.m.  
Div. 4: "F" v. "G" 4 p.m.  
Div. 5: "H" v. "I" 4 p.m.  
Div. 6: "J" v. "K" 4 p.m.  
Div. 7: "L" v. "M" 4 p.m.  
Div. 8: "N" v. "O" 4 p.m.  
Div. 9: "P" v. "Q" 4 p.m.  
Div. 10: "R" v. "S" 4 p.m.  
Div. 11: "T" v. "U" 4 p.m.  
Div. 12: "V" v. "W" 4 p.m.  
Div. 13: "X" v. "Y" 4 p.m.  
Div. 14: "Z" v. "AA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 15: "AB" v. "AC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 16: "AD" v. "AE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 17: "AF" v. "AG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 18: "AH" v. "AI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 19: "AJ" v. "AK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 20: "AL" v. "AM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 21: "AN" v. "AO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 22: "AP" v. "AQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 23: "AR" v. "AS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 24: "AT" v. "AU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 25: "AV" v. "AW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 26: "AX" v. "AY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 27: "AZ" v. "BA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 28: "BB" v. "BC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 29: "BD" v. "BE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 30: "BF" v. "BG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 31: "BH" v. "BI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 32: "BJ" v. "BK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 33: "BL" v. "BM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 34: "BN" v. "BO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 35: "BP" v. "BQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 36: "BR" v. "BS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 37: "BT" v. "BU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 38: "BV" v. "BW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 39: "BX" v. "BY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 40: "BZ" v. "CA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 41: "CB" v. "CC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 42: "CD" v. "CE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 43: "CF" v. "CG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 44: "CH" v. "CI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 45: "CJ" v. "CK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 46: "CL" v. "CM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 47: "CN" v. "CO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 48: "CP" v. "CQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 49: "CR" v. "CS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 50: "CT" v. "CU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 51: "CV" v. "CW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 52: "CX" v. "CY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 53: "CZ" v. "DA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 54: "DB" v. "DC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 55: "DD" v. "DE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 56: "DF" v. "DG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 57: "DH" v. "DI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 58: "DJ" v. "DK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 59: "DL" v. "DM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 60: "DN" v. "DO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 61: "DP" v. "DQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 62: "DR" v. "DS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 63: "DT" v. "DU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 64: "DV" v. "DW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 65: "DX" v. "DY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 66: "DZ" v. "EA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 67: "EB" v. "EC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 68: "ED" v. "EE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 69: "EF" v. "EG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 70: "EH" v. "EI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 71: "EJ" v. "EK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 72: "EL" v. "EM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 73: "EN" v. "EO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 74: "EP" v. "EQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 75: "ER" v. "ES" 4 p.m.  
Div. 76: "ET" v. "EU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 77: "EV" v. "EW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 78: "EX" v. "EY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 79: "EZ" v. "FA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 80: "FB" v. "FC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 81: "FD" v. "FE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 82: "FF" v. "FG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 83: "FH" v. "FI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 84: "FJ" v. "FK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 85: "FL" v. "FM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 86: "FN" v. "FO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 87: "FP" v. "FQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 88: "FR" v. "FS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 89: "FT" v. "FU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 90: "FV" v. "FW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 91: "FX" v. "FY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 92: "FZ" v. "GA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 93: "GB" v. "GC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 94: "GD" v. "GE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 95: "GF" v. "GG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 96: "GH" v. "GI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 97: "GJ" v. "GK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 98: "GL" v. "GM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 99: "GN" v. "GO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 100: "GP" v. "GQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 101: "GR" v. "GS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 102: "GT" v. "GU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 103: "GV" v. "GW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 104: "GX" v. "GY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 105: "GZ" v. "HA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 106: "HB" v. "HC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 107: "HD" v. "HE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 108: "HF" v. "HG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 109: "HH" v. "HI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 110: "HJ" v. "HK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 111: "HL" v. "HM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 112: "HN" v. "HO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 113: "HP" v. "HQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 114: "HR" v. "HS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 115: "HT" v. "HU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 116: "HV" v. "HW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 117: "HX" v. "HY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 118: "HZ" v. "IA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 119: "IB" v. "IC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 120: "ID" v. "IE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 121: "IF" v. "IG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 122: "IH" v. "II" 4 p.m.  
Div. 123: "IJ" v. "IK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 124: "IL" v. "IM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 125: "IN" v. "IO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 126: "IP" v. "IQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 127: "IR" v. "IS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 128: "IT" v. "IU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 129: "IV" v. "IW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 130: "IX" v. "IY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 131: "IZ" v. "JA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 132: "JB" v. "JC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 133: "JD" v. "JE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 134: "JF" v. "JG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 135: "JH" v. "JI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 136: "JJ" v. "JK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 137: "JL" v. "JM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 138: "JN" v. "JO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 139: "JP" v. "JQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 140: "JR" v. "JS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 141: "JT" v. "JU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 142: "JV" v. "JW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 143: "JX" v. "JY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 144: "JZ" v. "KA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 145: "KB" v. "KC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 146: "KD" v. "KE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 147: "KF" v. "KG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 148: "KH" v. "KI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 149: "KJ" v. "KK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 150: "KL" v. "KM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 151: "KN" v. "KO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 152: "KP" v. "KQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 153: "KR" v. "KS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 154: "KT" v. "KU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 155: "KV" v. "KW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 156: "KX" v. "KY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 157: "KZ" v. "LA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 158: "LB" v. "LC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 159: "LD" v. "LE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 160: "LF" v. "LG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 161: "LH" v. "LI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 162: "LJ" v. "LK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 163: "LL" v. "LM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 164: "LN" v. "LO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 165: "LP" v. "LQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 166: "LR" v. "LS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 167: "LT" v. "LU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 168: "LV" v. "LW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 169: "LX" v. "LY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 170: "LZ" v. "MA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 171: "MB" v. "MC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 172: "MD" v. "ME" 4 p.m.  
Div. 173: "MF" v. "MG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 174: "MH" v. "MI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 175: "MJ" v. "MK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 176: "ML" v. "MM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 177: "MN" v. "MO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 178: "MP" v. "MQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 179: "MR" v. "MS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 180: "MT" v. "MU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 181: "MV" v. "MW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 182: "MX" v. "MY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 183: "MZ" v. "NA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 184: "NB" v. "NC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 185: "ND" v. "NE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 186: "NF" v. "NG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 187: "NH" v. "NI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 188: "NJ" v. "NK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 189: "NL" v. "NM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 190: "NN" v. "NO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 191: "NP" v. "NQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 192: "NR" v. "NS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 193: "NT" v. "NU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 194: "NV" v. "NW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 195: "NX" v. "NY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 196: "NZ" v. "OA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 197: "OB" v. "OC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 198: "OD" v. "OE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 199: "OF" v. "OG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 200: "OH" v. "OI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 201: "OJ" v. "OK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 202: "OL" v. "OM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 203: "ON" v. "OO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 204: "OP" v. "OQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 205: "OR" v. "OS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 206: "OT" v. "OU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 207: "OV" v. "OW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 208: "OX" v. "OY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 209: "OZ" v. "PA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 210: "PB" v. "PC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 211: "PD" v. "PE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 212: "PF" v. "PG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 213: "PH" v. "PI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 214: "PJ" v. "PK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 215: "PL" v. "PM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 216: "PN" v. "PO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 217: "PP" v. "PQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 218: "PR" v. "PS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 219: "PT" v. "PU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 220: "PV" v. "PW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 221: "PX" v. "PY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 222: "PZ" v. "QA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 223: "QB" v. "QC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 224: "QD" v. "QE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 225: "QF" v. "QG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 226: "QH" v. "QI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 227: "QJ" v. "QK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 228: "QL" v. "QM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 229: "QN" v. "QO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 230: "QP" v. "QQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 231: "QR" v. "QS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 232: "QT" v. "QU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 233: "QV" v. "QW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 234: "QX" v. "QY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 235: "QZ" v. "RA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 236: "RB" v. "RC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 237: "RD" v. "RE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 238: "RF" v. "RG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 239: "RH" v. "RI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 240: "RJ" v. "RK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 241: "RL" v. "RM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 242: "RN" v. "RO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 243: "RP" v. "RQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 244: "RR" v. "RS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 245: "RT" v. "RU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 246: "RV" v. "RW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 247: "RX" v. "RY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 248: "RZ" v. "SA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 249: "SB" v. "SC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 250: "SD" v. "SE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 251: "SF" v. "SG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 252: "SH" v. "SI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 253: "SJ" v. "SK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 254: "SL" v. "SM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 255: "SN" v. "SO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 256: "SP" v. "SQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 257: "SR" v. "SS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 258: "ST" v. "SU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 259: "SV" v. "SW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 260: "SX" v. "SY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 261: "SZ" v. "TA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 262: "TB" v. "TC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 263: "TD" v. "TE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 264: "TF" v. "TG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 265: "TH" v. "TI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 266: "TJ" v. "TK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 267: "TL" v. "TM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 268: "TN" v. "TO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 269: "TP" v. "TQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 270: "TR" v. "TS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 271: "TT" v. "TU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 272: "TV" v. "TW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 273: "TX" v. "TY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 274: "TZ" v. "UA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 275: "UB" v. "UC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 276: "UD" v. "UE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 277: "UF" v. "UG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 278: "UH" v. "UI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 279: "UJ" v. "UK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 280: "UL" v. "UM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 281: "UN" v. "UO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 282: "UP" v. "UQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 283: "UR" v. "US" 4 p.m.  
Div. 284: "UT" v. "UU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 285: "UV" v. "UW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 286: "UX" v. "UY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 287: "UZ" v. "VA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 288: "VB" v. "VC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 289: "VD" v. "VE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 290: "VF" v. "VG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 291: "VH" v. "VI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 292: "VJ" v. "VK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 293: "VL" v. "VM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 294: "VN" v. "VO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 295: "VP" v. "VQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 296: "VR" v. "VS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 297: "VT" v. "VU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 298: "VV" v. "VW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 299: "VX" v. "VY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 300: "VZ" v. "WA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 301: "WB" v. "WC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 302: "WD" v. "WE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 303: "WF" v. "WG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 304: "WH" v. "WI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 305: "WJ" v. "WK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 306: "WL" v. "WM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 307: "WN" v. "WO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 308: "WP" v. "WQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 309: "WR" v. "WS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 310: "WT" v. "WU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 311: "WV" v. "WW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 312: "WX" v. "WY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 313: "WZ" v. "XA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 314: "XB" v. "XC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 315: "XD" v. "XE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 316: "XF" v. "XG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 317: "XH" v. "XI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 318: "XJ" v. "XK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 319: "XL" v. "XM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 320: "XN" v. "XO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 321: "XP" v. "XQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 322: "XR" v. "XS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 323: "XT" v. "XU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 324: "XV" v. "XW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 325: "XZ" v. "YA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 326: "YB" v. "YC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 327: "YD" v. "YE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 328: "YF" v. "YG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 329: "YH" v. "YI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 330: "YJ" v. "YK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 331: "YL" v. "YM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 332: "YN" v. "YO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 333: "YP" v. "YQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 334: "YR" v. "YS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 335: "YT" v. "YU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 336: "YV" v. "YW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 337: "YZ" v. "ZA" 4 p.m.  
Div. 338: "ZB" v. "ZC" 4 p.m.  
Div. 339: "ZD" v. "ZE" 4 p.m.  
Div. 340: "ZF" v. "ZG" 4 p.m.  
Div. 341: "ZH" v. "ZI" 4 p.m.  
Div. 342: "ZJ" v. "ZK" 4 p.m.  
Div. 343: "ZL" v. "ZM" 4 p.m.  
Div. 344: "ZN" v. "ZO" 4 p.m.  
Div. 345: "ZP" v. "ZQ" 4 p.m.  
Div. 346: "ZR" v. "ZS" 4 p.m.  
Div. 347: "ZT" v. "ZU" 4 p.m.  
Div. 348: "ZV" v. "ZW" 4 p.m.  
Div. 349: "ZX" v. "ZY" 4 p.m.  
Div. 350: "ZZ" v. "AA" 4 p.m.

## Athletic Match

On Sunday

A triangular athletic match between the Hongkong Amateur Athletic Club, 14 Field Regiment, R.A., and a combined team from the 1st Bn. the Essex Regt. and 6 C.O.D. will be held at Boundary Street this Sunday (December 19), commencing at 2 p.m.

The following have been selected to represent the HKAAC in this match:

100 Yards—S. Xavier, R.A. Marques, R. Spencer, F.A. Gomes.  
220 Yards—R.A. Marques, H. Clouting, R. Spencer, F.A. Gomes.  
440 Yards—M.P. Curzon, S. Xavier, J.C. Boyce, C.E. Griffiths.  
880 Yards—M.P. Curzon, J.C. Boyce, J.W. Elias, D.J. Bryce, A. Campbell.  
One Mile—J. Wood, J.E. Bacon, F. Allison.  
Three Miles—J. Wood, R. Beck, 120 Yards High Hurdles—A.F. Collico.  
440 Yards Low Hurdles—A.F. Collico, R. Beck, C.E. Griffiths.  
High Jump—T.H. Tsang, A.F. Collico, J.C. Boyce.  
Long Jump—T.H. Tsang, J.E. Bacon.  
Shot Put—R.J. Robinson, C.N. Brand.  
Discus Throw—R.J. Robinson, C.N. Brand.  
Javelin Throw—C.N. Brand, R. Bell, H. Clouting.

The timetable is as follows:

2.30 p.m. Three Miles; 2.30 p.m. High Jump; 2.30 p.m. Javelin Throw; 2.30 p.m. 100 Yards; 3.15 p.m. 100 Yards; 3.15 p.m. 440 Yards; 3.15 p.m. 880 Yards; 3.15 p.m. 120 Yards Hurdles; 3.15 p.m. 440 Yards Hurdles; 4 p.m. Long Jump; 4 p.m. Shot Put; 4.15 p.m. 220 Yards; 4.30 p.m. One Mile; 5 p.m. 440 Yards.

## Match Postponed

The First Division League soccer match between the Club and the Royal Air Force scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 19, has been postponed.

## Around Hollywood With MICHAEL RUDDY

# OLIVIA DE HAVILLAND TO PORTRAY GEORGE SAND IN "THE QUEST"

While Olivia de Havilland finishes her role of the nurse, Christina, in "Not As A Stranger," her fiancé, Pierre Galante is in Las Vegas, profiling the city of gambling and divorce-mills for the French magazine, Match.

Terence Young, who directed her in "That Lady," has been in Hollywood studying CinemaScope techniques in which he will film the re-make of "Four Feathers," apparently sold to TC Fox by Sir Alexander Korda. And I learn that Olivia will star in "The Quest," a romantic adventure, before she portrays George Sand in a motion picture based on the novelist's life in England, France, Majorca and Italy.

"Paris will be our home," she told me, still using the Swedish accent she learned for the Kramer film. "It's less than two hours to London and my son likes it as much as I do."

**STOLE THE SHOW**  
Marilyn Monroe stole the show when she turned up at the exhibition of paintings by Gladys Robinson at the Robinson manse, down the street from my cottage. With three males, Monroe wandered around the private gallery Edward G. Robinson built for his wife. Camera-men followed her. She posed prettily with Edward G. and Gladys, discussed Renoirs, Van Goghs, Matisses and Picassos, half-whispered to me, "One day I hope to have some good paintings," slipped a gingerale and slipped out, followed by her escorts.

One of her escorts was Jacques Berard, who portrays Paris in "Helen of Troy," seems smitten by Marilyn but it may be just good publicity for Jacques who speaks English better than MM does.

Anytime re-make! This time it's "Artists and Models" for the madcap **Marlin and Lewis**, whose last two items were re-makes. Apparently it's difficult to get stories for this problem pair, who still dislike the British press.

**MONTY'S VISIT**  
Hollywood is still talking about the visit of Field Marshal Montgomery. Some people weren't sure how to address him, VISCOUNT, Your Lordship, or General. Montgomery wasn't bothered.

He saw a studio, Warners, for the first time, chatted with **Greer Garson**, **Jane Allen**, **John Wayne**, posed for the cameramen while **Jack L. Warner** grinned broadly.

The visit was arranged by his Hollywood host, Sam Goldwyn, an old friend, who also gave a large dinner for Montgomery with **Elizabeth Taylor**, **Michael Wilding**, **Merle Oberon**, **Gary Cooper**, and the **James Mason** present. Amusing when the Deputy Supreme Commander met Mason who has twice portrayed Rommel on the screen.

"Never met him during the war," said Montgomery. "Nice to meet Rommel here." David Niven, also at the dinner, chuckled.

**19 GOLDEN RECORDS**  
Enjoyed seeing **Bing Crosby** at home on television when **Edward R. Murrow**, CBS ace reporter, presented the crooner on his "Person to Person" show. The interview took place at Bing's Holmby Hills 22-room cottage and opened with Bing playing snooker.

On the wall of the billiard-room were the 19 gold records, presented to Bing to mark the sale of more than 20 million records, a record no other singer has equalled.

And Bing showed the Royal Copenhagen collection of his late wife, **Dixie**. "Dixie began collecting these lovely little figures 20 years ago," said Bing, smiling at Dixie. "We treasure them for her."

With him in the interview, his youngest son, **Lindsay**, who interrupted his homework to chat with Bing and **Ed Murrow**. P.S. It took over a year of discussion and negotiation to get Bing on TV.

You may not have heard of a pianist called **Liberace**. America

has. He's a television star, a concert star, makes a fortune playing jazz and classical on a super-sized piano, always with silver candelabra aboard. Next year he'll make a film at Warners, and a Las Vegas appearance at—believe it or not, \$18,000 a week.

**SOME VARIETY**  
Watch for **Robert Mitchum** as the bullying cattiman in "Track of the Cat," the murdering preacher in "Night of the Hunter" and the country doctor in "Not As A Stranger." "My next picture, chum, is a little different," said Mitchum when we met buying toys for our children at the Toy Menagerie in Beverly Hills. "It's 'Blood Alley' with **Lauren Bacall** and myself the only Caucasians in a cast of Koreans and Chinese. Merry Christmas!"

**CHEERS UP TONY**  
Does psychoanalysis improve an actor's acting? "Tony Curtis, delight of the U.S. bobbysoxer, and hailed by his studio, U.I., as this generation's **Douglas Fairbanks**, thinks so. He tried it. 'I wasn't as happy as I should have been,' he said recently. 'He didn't say how happy he should have been.' Little things bothered me. So I went to a psychiatrist. A friend advised me to. I did and I have two sessions a week. I think it's made me happier not only in my work but in my marriage."

Tony recently completed "The Purple Mask," a re-make of an old Universal film, in which he plays a highly emotional char-

acter. Only problems for the average person like myself who's often not as happy as he should be is the psychiatrist's fee. In Hollywood, it's \$15 an hour. I guess you have to be a film star to afford a psychiatrist.

**NICE, IF TRYING**  
I watched **Guy Madison** spend the morning kissing **Kim Novak** in a cosy little flat. A scene in "Five Against the House," a drama of five college undergrads who try to hold up a Nevada gambling casino. "Gosh, I'm tired," said Madison after the scene. "Tomorrow my wife, Sheila, and I are off to Colorado to fish and relax."

Madison, a sailor in the U.S. Navy during the war, is a star on television, radio and the screen. He begins 1955 with two films, "The Best of Hollow Mountain," to be made in Mexico, and "The Tall Men" with **Clark Gable** and **Marilyn Monroe** and possibly, **Jane Russell**, in March. Nice work, even if tiring.

One of the six original stars at M.G.M. Studios when the studios were created in 1924, **Lillian Gish**, has begun work on "The Cobweb," with **Richard Widmark**, **Lauren Bacall** and **Charles Boyer**. For the record, Lillian Gish received \$1,000,000 for five pictures in 1928, which stands as the highest amount any actress has been paid for one year's work. And in those days, income tax was low.

## England's Rugby Selectors Make Sweeping Changes

By J. R. WATKINS

England's rugby selectors were not impressed by the first trial of the season at Falm







## XMAS OVER THE WORLD

Today one of our special writers takes you on a Christmas tour of Mediterranean countries.

## ITALY

A sombre note will be struck in the Christmas as rejoicings of millions of Italian families this year owing to anxiety for the health of the ailing and aged Pope Pius XII.

The continuing ill-health is casting a shadow over the traditional Christmas celebrations, with the homely pleasure of gift-giving and rich food.

In the Vatican, the Pope's condition is a matter of concern to countless Basilicas and tiny churches. His illness is a subject of special prayers being said for the 78-year-old Pontiff's return to health.

For the past 15 years, the Pope has broadcast a message to the world's 400,000,000 Catholics from the Basilica of St. Peter in the Vatican. This year, the broadcast may be the last, as the Pope may have to cancel the Christmas Eve ceremony at which he receives the homage of all the Cardinals present in Rome and of the highest prelates of the central government of the Church.

During the late evening of Christmas Eve, the population of towns and villages will flock to the Basilicas, Cathedrals, and tiny country churches there to watch the Pope's broadcast. The Church which depicts the scene in the stable of Bethlehem and to hear the Christmas Mass. Before leaving the church, most will pause in front of the crib to say a prayer to Him whose birth they have just commemorated. A prayer in which the Pope is sure to be remembered.

For children, in Italy as in many other countries, Christmas is a time for parties. For one week before, and on Christmas Eve, children are working for charitable organizations, have been collecting in streets and restaurants to raise money for orphanages and the very poor.

The great day for Italian children, however, is the Feast of Epiphany, on January 6, when a kind witch named Befana glides down on her broomstick with a load of presents, just as Santa Claus visits the children of Britain and many other countries on Christmas Eve.

## GREECE

Although Christmas is not one of the major holidays for the Greeks, the Nativity of Christ is celebrated throughout the country by the Greek Orthodox Church.

The main Christian celebrations here, however, take place on New Year's day, the Feast of St. Basilios.

Christmas trees, for example, are lit not on Christmas night but on New Year's Eve. Presents and congratulations, banquets and family gatherings also take place on that day.

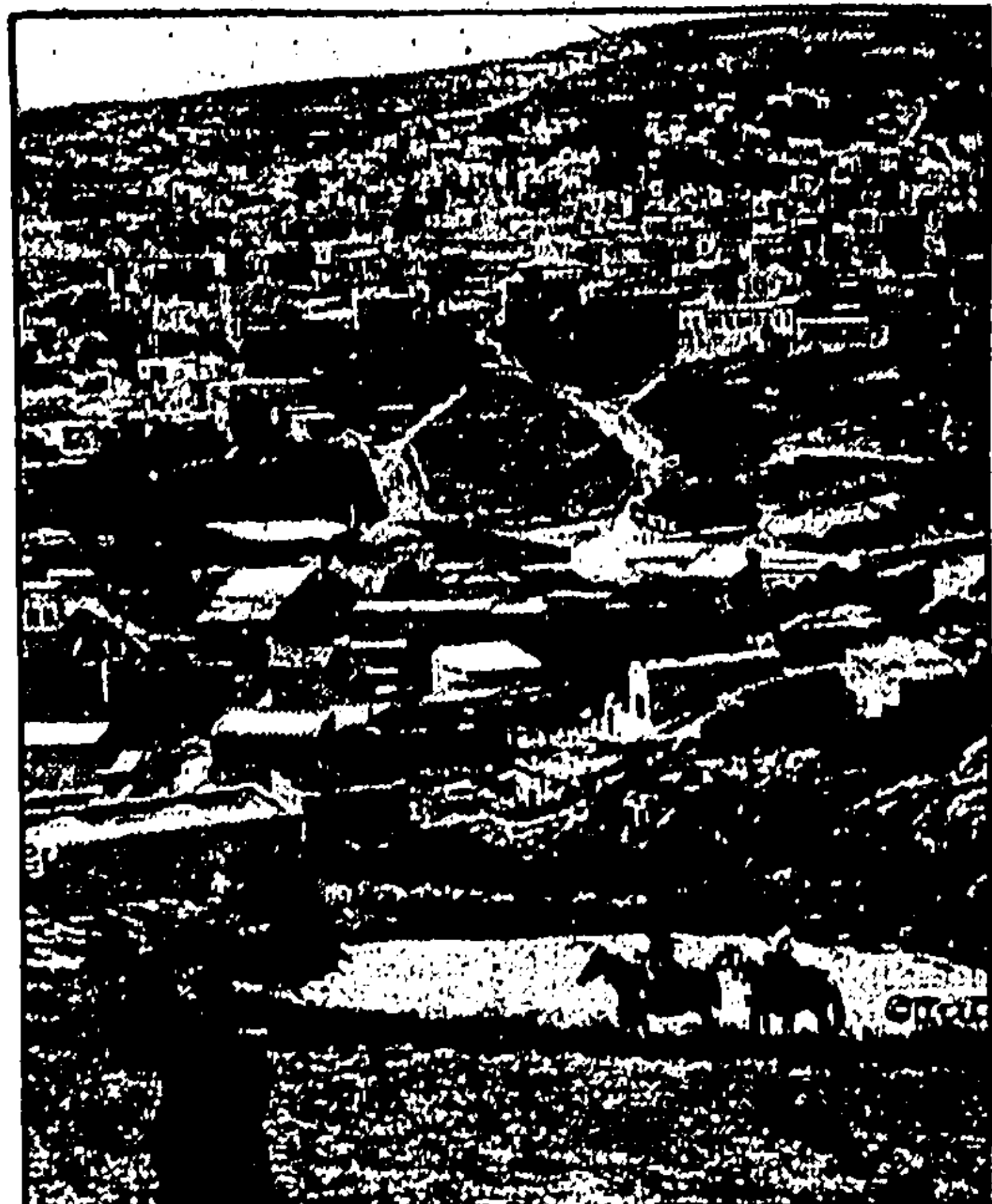
Christmas, in its Greek significance "Christougenia", does not mean specifically the single day of December 25. The plural form indicates that it includes a series of holidays starting on December 25 and lasting until January 6. During these 12 days, Greeks celebrate not merely Christmas day but also New Year's day, the Epiphany and many Saints' days as well.

In Greek villages, many old pagan customs continue to be observed at Christmas. Many villagers, for instance, consider that any child born on Christmas day is an "anti-Christ" because it has been held enough to enter the world on the Holy Day reserved for the Saviour's own birth.

On Christmas day, Greek peasants slaughter their fattest pigs. The carcass is then salted and stored in large terracotta jars to become the roast dish not only for the ensuing festivities but also to provide the family with meat during the winter.

The blood of the slaughtered pigs will be used to rub the horns of the cattle of the farm. This "anointing" on the very day of Christ's Nativity, is said to preserve cows, calves and even goats from "the evil eye" and illness.

After a short attendance at the church service, housewives will be busy at home baking the ritual "Vasilopita"—The King's Cake—which will be cut at the family gathering on New Year's Eve. This cake contains a coin which is said to bring luck to the coming year to the one who finds it. With a feeling of increased security predominating along Greece's northern borders and the signs of armed conflict, in



NAZARETH, CHRIST'S BOYHOOD HOME, retains almost its original appearance, as very few modern buildings have been added. Here in a basin in the hills bordering the south of the Plain of Esdraelon dwell 10,000 persons, in a spot rich in tradition of both the Old and New Testaments.

vision and destruction which have been their lot for two decades fading, the peasants, too, are now more confident of the future and feel that they can spend a part of their tiny savings on Christmas celebrations.

## CYPRUS

As in many other countries Christmas is celebrated in Cyprus partly as a religious festival and partly as a time of fun and feasting, while in addition the island has its own special practices and superstitions associated with the occasion.

Christmas is ushered in on Cyprus with the singing of the Greek Orthodox Midnight Mass, celebrated in candle-lit churches throughout the island. This long, impressive church service is attended by young and old alike, for no member of the family misses Mass on this great annual feast.

An old superstition associated with Christmas in Cyprus, and still respected by many Cypriot villagers, is that boyce men, locally known as "kalkantsari", are allowed by God to visit the earth for 12 days at Yuletide.

Elderly ladies tell to their children and grandchildren tales of these boyce men, painting vivid verbal pictures of the hideous, frightening forms which these characters may take—and producing in their listeners much the same effect as that of ghost stories.

After such a story-telling session, women and children whose imaginations have been too well stimulated, are scared to enter a dark room for fear of meeting a "kalkantsari". Most of the revelries of the Christmas season are, however, reserved until New Year's Eve. On this night, too, Cypriot children hang up their stockings.

Father Christmas also puts in an appearance on December 31. But in Cyprus they differ greatly from the kindly benefactors they are in other countries. For Cypriot Father Christmas does not give presents. They ask for them.

They are all poor men who beg for money while singing a special Christmas carol, "Father Christmas is Coming", with never ending repetition to the accompaniment of a musical instrument—usually an out-of-tune violin.

Some Father Christmases even dress up in the traditional white trimmed red cloak and hood. Most, however, are identified merely by the song they sing, and the receipt for coins which they so prominently display.

On Christmas Day, family parties are the rule and the highlight of the occasion is the cutting of the Christmas cake, made from a rich creamy mixture in which a copper coin is hidden. The cake is cut by the male head of the household in many places as there are persons in the house, and then distributed.

The one who is fortunate enough to get the portion containing the coin can look forward to luck and happiness throughout the year.

Boozing on New Year's Day is also considered a good omen, though self-produced meezes do not count.

## SPAIN

Christmas trees, Christmas cards and Christmas presents, customs brought here from other countries, are becoming more and more a predominant feature of Christmas in Spain. Christmas customs which still continue in full vigour is the Christmas lottery. Every Spaniard has dreams of becoming a millionaire on Christmas Eve. And there is

more hope of this than ever this year.

The first prize of the Christmas lottery has been increased from 80,000,000 pesetas (£800,000) to 105,000,000 (£1,050,000) this year and seven series are being printed instead of six to meet the tremendous demand for tickets.

But to win the 105,000,000 pesetas, you must buy all seven series of the winning number at 2,000 pesetas (£20) each. That means that you must spend 14,000 pesetas (£140) in order to be even in a position to hit the jackpot.

The toy shops here today reflect the growing mechanical interests of Spanish children. "Space man" outfits draw small response, but electric trains and all kinds of aeroplanes are highly popular.

Spain's improved economic position is shown by the fact that Madrid's largest department store is featuring a whole section of imported, latest-style German toys.

"Christmas is not what it used to be," grumbles an older Spaniard as he gazes at the Christmas trees and cards and the holly and mistletoe, and listen to the radio playing "Silent Night, Holy Night."

But the younger generation seems to enjoy it.

## PORTUGAL

Enthusiastic preparations are being made in this intensely Catholic country for the celebration of Christmas in traditional manner.

Most Portuguese will flock to midnight Mass, celebrated in all churches throughout the land on Christmas Eve. Those unable to go to church will listen to the Mass to be broadcast by the Portuguese national radio network.

After Mass comes the "revellion", or supper, consisting of chicken broth or boiled salt cod fish with potatoes and red wine of varying quality according to the size of the household's purse. Ordinary red wine here, for example, costs 250 escudos (about 7½d) a litre (nearly 1 quart), while good quality bottled wine may be anywhere from 12 escudos (3/-) to 25 escudos (6/3d) a litre bottle.

As usual there is great enthusiasm for the national lottery which, as last year, will give a top prize of 10,000,000 escudos (£125,000) in return for an outlay of 2,000 escudos (£25).

Almost every one in Portugal pins his hopes on this lottery, which is run for charity purposes. Those who cannot afford a 20-escudo (about 5/-) share—the smallest that can be bought in a ticket—are joining to buy one.

Shops are displaying beautiful clothes which are the most popular presents for growing ups and a variety of toys for the children. There is not much novelty as far as presents for adults are concerned, but children this year have something new in the shape of a flying saucer made of plastic.

This is the most popular toy of the season and has replaced, motorcars, tanks, aircraft and ships as the children's first choice.

Portuguese children put their shoes by the fireplace in the kitchen on Christmas Eve and Jesus coming to the infant Jesus asking him to come down through the chimney during the night to put on their shoes the presents for which they have asked and which they hope to collect on Christmas morning.

Not far from the infant Jesus, the Portuguese Auto-motive Club puts a Christmas tree beside each one and motorists leave their gifts in the tree. By Christmas night, the tree is full of presents. Tomorrow, Britain and the United States.

## World Cotton Markets

New York, Dec. 16. Cotton prices today regained a foot held after a shaky start. Initial losses up to 50 cents a bale were converted into small net gains at the close.

Closing around the day's top level, the list was up 2 to 8 points, opening prices were off 7 to 10 points. New Orleans closed off 1 to 8 points.

Buying credited to textile mills, exporters and commission houses reversed the trend when an overnight accumulation of hedge selling, originating largely from California points, had been digested.

SMALL SCALE Liverpool brokers were small scale sellers of the December, May and July deliveries in the early forenoon.

Smaller cables under the Government loan programme for the week ended Dec. 10, along with the disappointingly slow development of new buying in the textile markets, were contributing factors.

As March neared the 34½-cent line, urgent selling abated and prices worked irregularly higher on the trade demand. Dealers reported a sizable amount of selling in early months against purchases of the far forward positions by commission houses.

Reasoning behind that operation, the experts said, was that with production-marketing contracts to take effect next year and with the virtual assurance of continued 90 per cent of parity price supports the deferred months are expected to be sensitive to any adverse crop development and any tightening in the supply situation.

NEW YORK Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.00
March	31.84-85
May	34.95-96
July	34.90
October	34.89
December	34.92
March	34.94
May	34.98

NEW ORLEANS Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.85
March	34.90
May	34.90
July	34.90-30.00
October	34.90
December	34.90
March	34.90
May	34.90

LIVERPOOL Closings, American middling 15/16 inch, in pence per lb.

Dec./Jan.	32.01
Mar./Apr.	32.17
May/June	32.17
July/Aug.	32.17
Oct./Nov.	31.90
Dec./Jan.	31.90

Prices per bushel in closing prices

Wheat, No. 2, red	22 1/2
Spot	22 1/2
Mar.	22 1/2
May	22 1/2
July	22 1/2
Sept.	22 1/2
Nov.	22 1/2
Dec.	22 1/2

Corn, No. 2, yellow

Spot	10 1/2
Mar.	10 1/2
May	10 1/2
July	10 1/2
Sept.	10 1/2
Nov.	10 1/2
Dec.	10 1/2

Soybeans, No. 2, yellow

Spot	28 1/2
Mar.	28 1/2
May	28 1/2
July	28 1/2
Sept.	28 1/2
Nov.	28 1/2
Dec.	28 1/2

Barley, 130-135

New York flour 80 lb. sack 84.00

United Press.

## Dow-Jones Closing Averages

New York, Dec. 16. Dow-Jones closing averages on Wall Street today were as follows:

20 Industrials 2214

30 Industrials 2214

40 Industrials 2214

50 Industrials 2214

60 Industrials 2214

70 Industrials 2214

80 Industrials 2214

90 Industrials 2214

100 Industrials 2214

110 Industrials 2214

120 Industrials 2214

130 Industrials 2214

140 Industrials 2214

150 Industrials 2214

160 Industrials 2214

170 Industrials 2214

180 Industrials 2214

190 Industrials 2214

200 Industrials 2214

210 Industrials 2214

220 Industrials 2214

230 Industrials 2214

240 Industrials 2214

250 Industrials 2214

260 Industrials 2214

270 Industrials 2214

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290 Industrials 2214

300 Industrials 2214

310 Industrials 2214

320 Industrials 2214

330 Industrials 2214

340 Industrials 2214

350 Industrials 2214

360 Industrials 2214

370 Industrials 2214

380 Industrials 2214

390 Industrials 2214

400 Industrials 2214

410 Industrials 2214

420 Industrials 2214

430 Industrials 2214

440 Industrials 2214

450 Industrials 2214

460 Industrials 2214

470 Industrials 2214

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1080 Industrials 2214

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1180 Industrials 2214

1190 Industrials 2214



